Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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28 DAYS before federalization

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Have you attended or do you plan to attend any of the candidate forums and debates being held in the runup to the Nov. 7 elections?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS

PHASE 6

As of October 30, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Landmark Bill

House Democrats roll out landmark legislation to extend health care to tens of millions who lack coverage.

NATION...Page 10

New at Miyako

Only two weeks into the job, chef Koji Isa is already tickling the taste buds and exciting the palates of Miyako habitués.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

DUE TO NONCOMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL ORDERS:

CUC accrues $630K penalties

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has failed to comply with the provisions of the stipulated orders and has accrued total of $630,000 penalties in the first six months, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

See CUC on Page 4

'Trick' to safety this Halloween

Today is Halloween, and with H1N1 flu widespread across the country, the American Red Cross is offering tips to help parents and children celebrate safely this year.

"We don't want anyone to go out trick-or-treating and come home sick," said Sharon Stanley, chief nurse of the American Red Cross. "You can follow these special tips to try to have a flu-free Halloween":

See TRICK on Page 4

MPLT approves $4.1M transfer to general fund

Marianas Public Lands Trust board trustee Pedro R. Deleon Guerrero, right, gestures as he calls for the immediate transfer of $4.1 million in MPLT interest income to the general fund for appropriation in Fiscal Year 2009, during a special board meeting yesterday. Also in photo are pro-tem chairman Alvaro Santos, left, along with trustees Gregoria Fitial, Vianney Hocog and legal counsel Bruce McMillan.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Public Lands Trust approved yesterday the immediate transfer of $4.1 million in interest income to the general fund for appropriation in Fiscal Year 2009, which ended on Sept. 30—a contentious issue between the Legislature and the Fitial administration for months.

See MPLT on Page 4

DOING THE ROUNDS HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

David G. Gulick, seated-left, district director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, answers questions from members of the Saipan Muslim community on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's interim final rule on the CNMI transitional worker program, at the Garapan mosque yesterday afternoon. DHS also held a public forum on the federalization rules last night at the American Memorial Park. ***See "Bagong patakaran para sa mga alien workers sa NMI" on Page 12.***

Q&A

Continued from yesterday

Q. If I obtain CW status, will that lead to U.S. lawful permanent resident ("green card") status?

A. No, not directly. However, as a CW nonimmigrant you are not barred from obtaining lawful permanent residence if otherwise eligible as a family- or employment-based immigrant.

Q. How long does a grant of CW-1 status last?

A. One year. A CW-1 nonimmigrant in good standing

See Q&A on Page 4

SUBMIT COMMENTS

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov
- E-mail: rfs.regs@dhs.gov
- Mail: Chief, Regulatory Products Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529-2210

Man repeatedly stabbed, hit by getaway car. **PAGE 3**
Ex-judge Lizama backs federalization lawsuit. **PAGE 5**

Local

Fiesta Resort turns over 'Healthy Lunch' funds

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan officials and staff turn over a check worth $516 to the CHC Volunteers Association to support its effort to buy a hyperbaric chamber for the hospital. The money was raised as part of proceeds from Fiesta's "Healthy Lunch" promotion at the Chambre Bar.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan made good with its promise to donate a portion of proceeds from its "Healthy Lunch" promotion to the Commonwealth Health Center Volunteers' effort to purchase a hyperbaric chamber for the hospital.

Earlier this month, the Garapan hotel turned over a check worth $516 to the group. The amount was representative of Fiesta Resort's "Healthy Lunch" fundraising project that began last Sept. 1.

It calls for the buffet at Chambre Bar to adjust its regular price from $5.99 to $6.99 with the $1 increase to be donated to the CHC Volunteers.

Fiesta Resort's Food and Beverage manager Das Krishnan said this partnership was a way for the hotel to give back to the community.

CHC Volunteers intends to use the money to help buy a hyperbaric chamber for CHC. The equipment, which the islands sadly lack, is critical for the CNMI especially for divers and diabetic patients.

The hyperbaric chamber is a sealed chamber in which a high-pressure environment is used primarily to treat decompression sickness, gas embolism, carbon monoxide poisoning, gas gangrene resulting from infection by anaerobic bacteria, tissue injury arising from radiation therapy for cancer, and wounds that are difficult to heal.

In 2006, the Legislature appropriated $300,000 to purchase one but this was later reappropriated to other matters. It is the group's goal is to raise $400,000 for the acquisition of the equipment.

Chambre Bar's "Healthy Lunch" buffet serves a variety of main courses daily like mahi-mahi with tomato salsa, chicken rolled cabbage, yosenabe, broiled chicken breast with honey mustard sauce, and salmon with teriyaki sauce.

The main dishes come complete with the works—hot vegetables, tofu, soup, a wide selection from the salad bar, and more. They also serve brown rice and black rice. The menu for the whole week is published in *Saipan Tribune*'s Monday issue.

Krishnan, however, emphasized that reservation is a must because the restaurant can only accommodate up to 40 people. Please call the F&B office at 233-6414. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

NIGHTMARE@ CLUB X
October 31, 2009
A chilling dj set by:
CJ the DJ and Big Ken Camacho
Hosted by:
Julius Caesar Santos
Special appearance by the:
URBAN MODELS of the 671
Best Costume wins the beautiful
LG ME 770 by Docomo Pacific
Live filming of: GNET TV!
"Now's your chance to be on Guam's hottest TV show... GNET TV"
Bring your friends... and leave your fears at the door...
You've heard about the V...
come and experience what everyone is talking about!
CJ the DJ
Big Ken Camacho
Julius Caesar Santos
"Hafa Adai Tirow!!!"
WELCOME USS LOS ANGELES!
Another exciting offer from the Grand!
Saipan Grand Hotel
A TanHoldings Company
Miller Lite
MAGAS
docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC
Salon
TRENCH TECH
GROOVE network
URBAN MODELS

Man repeatedly stabbed, hit by getaway car

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man was injured after he was repeatedly stabbed by one of two suspects at a poker establishment in San Jose early yesterday morning.

The 31-year-old victim sustained four stab wounds in the torso and stomach. He was admitted to the Commonwealth Health Center and is listed in stable condition.

The suspects were not arrested, but police later recovered the getaway vehicle in San Antonio.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said that at 1:45am the DPS Fire Medics received a call about an injured person at the MCM Poker.

Tarkong said an ambulance was dispatched to the location. After learning that it was a stabbing case, medics contacted DPS Central.

Preliminary investigation showed that the victim got into a fight with a Chinese man in his late 30s. During the altercation, the suspect stabbed the victim several times in the abdomen.

The suspect then got into a silver Nissan Sentra being driven by a Chinese woman. The car backed up, striking the victim on the right hip and leg. The car then sped off.

Later at 2:06am, police received information that the car was spotted in San Antonio. After an hour, Police Officer John Cabrera found the vehicle parked outside an establishment in San Antonio.

The car's rear window was shattered. A rock was found resting in the rear passenger seat.

Police towed the vehicle to the DPS impound lot and secured it as evidence.

"The investigation in this case is ongoing," Tarkong said.

For Senate 2009
#5
Thoughtful
Implicit
No-nonsense
Achievement
Paid for by friends of Tina

Decision on SpEd complaint against PSS out in December

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The parent of a special needs child who complained about the Public School System's failure to render services to his daughter has been told that PSS will issue a decision on the case in 60 days.

Suzanne Lizama, acting coordinator for PSS Special Education, informed Allan Vila that PSS received his complaint on Oct. 16. As per procedures, PSS must acknowledge receipt of the complaint within five days. An investigation will be conducted, if necessary, and then a written decision will be provided within 60 days, or by Dec. 16.

However, Lizama said this may be extended to a later date if both parties agree to an extension.

If necessary, a meeting would be scheduled to discuss the complaint and the PSS findings as a result of the investigation, Lizama said.

Vila's daughter is a special child enrolled at Oleai Elementary School. Vila claimed that his daughter has not been receiving the required services for her special needs under the PSS special education program.

Vila filed the complaint at Oleai school early this month. It was referred to the Education Commissioner's Office.

In his complaint form, Vila said that his 8-year-old daughter has pervasive developmental disorder and constantly needs the service of specialists for her needs as agreed upon by PSS and parents under the individual education program or IEP. PSS is currently beset by the lack of special education specialists.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan refused to comment on the issue on Thursday but she expressed willingness to meet with the parent to discuss and settle the issue.

In an interview with Vila, he expressed disappointment with the process being used to resolve his complaint and is worried that the case may take some time to resolve.

Vila told *Saipan Tribune* that since he brought up the issue, parents of other special children have expressed similar concerns.

"What I am fighting for is not only for my daughter's welfare but for all children with special needs in the CNMI," Vila said.

Vila's family spends about $6,000 in yearly medical trips to a Manila hospital for his daughter.

Govendo wants TV coverage of proceedings against him

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo wants television coverage inside the CNMI Supreme Court in the disciplinary proceedings against him.

Govendo on Thursday asked the Supreme Court to allow the media to video record the formal disciplinary proceedings.

The judge cited Rule 28(a) of Commonwealth Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure that states that the hearing shall be open to the public.

"Accordingly, the presence of television cameras in this proceeding would serve the spirit of this rule by furthering the public's access," he said.

The Supreme Court set a hearing for Dec. 17, 2009.

Govendo cited Chief Justice Miguel Demapan's State of the Judiciary Address in which Demapan announced that the judiciary is "…striving to remain above reproach, to put forth an air of transparency…"

Govendo said he agrees wholeheartedly with Demapan's message and believes that video recording the proceedings would be a large step toward accomplishing that goal.

Retired Guam Superior Court judge Richard Benson, the investigating judge appointed by the Supreme Court to look into the complaint against Govendo, has noted a pattern in Govendo's use of racially insensitive language in his courtroom.

"Unfortunately, Judge Govendo has on multiple occasions used racially insensitive language," according to Benson.

Benson said private admonition would suffice for a single incident, but more stringent discipline is appropriate where a pattern of such conduct exists.

Benson said that in the case against Roger S. Castillo, Govendo appeared to be taunting Castillo, and on that basis alone his language was degrading.

Moreover, Benson said, it appears that Govendo's statements to Castillo were part of a pattern of racial insensitivity.

The investigating judge pointed to a recent case in which the CNMI Supreme Court noted that Govendo made similarly inappropriate statements when denying an American couple's attempt to adopt their niece and nephew from the Philippines.

Such statements, Benson said, contain callous stereotypes of Filipinos. "And, by engaging in race-based stereotypes, Judge Govendo's other references to race are tainted with the appearance of racial prejudice," Benson said.

In his answer filed on Thursday to Benson's findings, Govendo denied that there is pattern of racial insensitivity and asserted that any reference to past adoptions or cases are irrelevant to the matter at hand and should be stricken.

Govendo also denied the allegation that he has repeatedly used racially insensitive and disparaging language in his courtroom.

He said that Superior Court Associate Judge Ramona Villagomez Manglona "severely overreacted" to his statements.

Manglona filed the complaint in the Supreme Court against Govendo.

Manglona in November 2008 issued a decision that found Govendo's statements in the Castillo case in violation of the "principles of decorum and temperance that the Judicial Canons seek to promote."

Senate OKs bill establishing Office of Grants Management

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

On a 7-0 vote, the Senate passed on Wednesday a bill seeking to establish an Office of Grants Management under the Office of the Governor to be able to take full advantage of the millions of dollars in federal grant funding that the CNMI is eligible to receive.

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, for example, over $53 million has so far been announced for the CNMI as of early this month.

House Bill 16-229 or the Grants Management Act was introduced by Rep. Victor B. Hocog (Cov-Rota) and House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan).

The bill says the Office of Grants Management is responsible for establishing a database of federal grants currently received, do research of all federal grants which the CNMI is eligible to receive but has not applied for, and develop grant applications for those federal grants which the CNMI has not previously submitted grant applications but is eligible to receive.

The proposed office is also responsible for doing research of federal grants which the CNMI is not currently eligible to receive but might reasonably be made eligible through the Covenant, which makes applicable to the CNMI "those laws which provide federal services and financial assistance programs as they apply to Guam."

It also seeks to develop training programs for government staff in grant writing, grant management and compliance, training on federal regulations and requirements, and practices and trends in federal grant implementation.

The office, according to the bill, will be headed by an administrator with at least a bachelor's degree from a U.S.-accredited college or university, and at least five years experience in grant writing or grants management.

The administrator is to report directly to the governor or to another government official the governor has delegated his supervisory responsibility.

TRICK

From Page 1

■ If your child is sick, keep them at home. This will be disappointing to your young one, but your neighbors and community are counting on you to hold the line on transmission of this virus.

■ Remind kids to keep their hands away from their eyes, nose and mouth to keep germs away. Carry that hand sanitizer with you or have it near your candy dispensing area!

■ If you are giving out candy, hand it out or scoop it. Instead of a bowl of candy, consider handing out small, individually wrapped bags of treats.

■ Throw away any unwrapped candy and inspect the rest for choking hazards and tampering.

To help prevent other dangers, take the following steps for a safer Halloween:

■ Use flame-resistant costumes.

■ Plan your route and make sure adults know where children are going. A parent or responsible adult should accompany young children as they make their way around the neighborhood.

■ Make sure the trick-or-treaters have a flashlight. Add reflective tape to costumes and trick-or-treat bags. Have everyone wear light-colored clothing to be seen.

■ Visit only the homes that have a porch light on. Accept treats at the door – never go inside.

■ Instead of masks which can cover your eyes and make it hard to see, use face makeup.

■ Walk only on the sidewalks, not in the street. If no sidewalk is available, walk at the edge of the roadway, facing traffic. Look both ways before crossing the street, and cross only at the corner. Don't cross between parked cars.

■ Be cautious around strange animals, especially dogs.

■ If you are welcoming ghosts and goblins, make sure your outdoor lights are on.

■ Clear your porch or front yard of any obstacles that a child could trip over.

■ Restrain your pets. This is very important as there are many instances where children are attacked by unrestrained dogs in neighborhoods.

■ Use a glow stick instead of a candle in your jack-o-lantern to avoid a fire hazard.

Visit RedCross.org for more information on how to have a safe and happy Halloween. ***(ARC)***

HALLOWEEN BY THE NUMBERS

Trick or Treat!

36 million: The estimated number of potential trick-or-treaters in 2008—children 5 to 13—across the United States. This number is up about 65,000 from a year earlier. Of course, many other children—older than 13, and younger than 5—also go trick-or-treating.

111.4 million: Number of occupied housing units across the nation in 2008—all potential stops for trick-or-treaters.

93 percent: Percentage of households with residents who consider their neighborhood safe. In addition, 78 percent said there was no place within a mile of their homes where they would be afraid to walk alone at night.

Jack-o'-Lanterns and Pumpkin Pies

1.1 billion pounds: Total production of pumpkins by major pumpkin-producing states in 2008. Illinois led the country by producing 496 million pounds of the vined orange gourd. Pumpkin patches in California, Pennsylvania and New York also provided lots of pumpkins: Each state produced at least 100 million pounds. The value of all pumpkins produced by major pumpkin-producing states was $141 million.

Where to Spend Halloween?

Some places around the country that may put you in the Halloween mood are:

■ Transylvania County, N.C. (30,187 residents).

■ Tombstone, Ariz. (population 1,566).

■ Pumpkin Center, N.C. (population 2,228); and Pumpkin Bend, Ark. (population 307).

■ Cape Fear in New Hanover County, N.C. (15,711); and Cape Fear in Chatham County, N.C. (1,170).

■ Skull Creek, Neb. (population 271).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Q&A

From Page 1

may obtain additional one-year extensions if his or her employer files a petition asking for the extension, subject to availability under the numerical cap.

Q. How long does a grant of CW-2 status for a derivative family member last?

A. The same length of stay as the CW-1 principal, except that a CW-2 child's length of stay ends on his or her 18th birthday, if sooner.

Q. Can a CW-1 worker change jobs in CNMI and keep the CW-1 status?

A. Yes, but the new employer would have to file the Form I-129CW petition for the worker's new position before the worker can be employed there. CW-1 transitional workers are only authorized to work for the employer that has petitioned for them.

Q. I am a CW nonimmigrant who obtained status in CNMI. I need to travel abroad and return on very short notice because of a sudden family emergency. Can I do that without a visa?

A. Normally a visa will be expected for the readmission of a CW nonimmigrant returning to CNMI. In emergency situations, however, it may be possible for DHS to give prior permission to travel and return without a visA. Please consult with the USCIS office in Saipan.

Q. As a CW nonimmigrant, may I travel to or from the CNMI using flight arrangements that transit through the Guam airport?

A. No. CW visas and status are authorized for travel to, and presence in CNMI only. You may not travel to any other U.S. place, even in brief transit, without an appropriate other visa or documentation authorizing that visit.

Q. How can I or my company submit comments on the rule?

A. USCIS encourages public comment on this rulemaking. Comments must be received by Nov. 25, 2009. Comments should be identified by DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 and submitted one of the following ways:

■ Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.

■ E-mail: rfs.regs@dhs.gov. Include DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 in the subject line.

■ Mail: Chief, Regulatory Products Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529-2210. To ensure proper handling, please reference DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 on your correspondence.

Source: USCIS

MPLT

From Page 1

"There's a game being played here not by MPLT but by the Legislature. They approved this [in the budget]," said MPLT board trustee Pedro R. Deleon Guerrero, who made the motion to transfer $4.1 million to the general fund "immediately."

Four of the MPLT board members present in yesterday's special board meeting on Saipan voted "yes" on the motion to remit the funds to the general fund: protem chair Alvaro Santos, Vianney Hocog, Gregoria Fitial, and Deleon Guerrero.

MPLT chair Phillip Mendiola-Long was not present during the special board meeting.

Santos, during the meeting, said he informed House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan) in a letter on Thursday that MPLT reclassified the $4.1 million into interest income.

Yumul said yesterday he has yet to see MPLT's comment on the bill seeking to transfer the funds to the general fund.

While the $4.1 million was a resource listed for appropriation in Public Law 16-32 or the FY 2009 budget and House Concurrent Resolutions 16-2 and 16-3, MPLT made no transfer of funds before the end of the fiscal year.

As early as June, Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Frica Pangelinan already warned that the government is expected to have an additional $4.1 million deficit in FY 2009 if MPLT does not transfer to the general fund the resource listed as "recovered interest."

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos echoed this concern about the deficit. The Fitial administration drafted a bill to authorize MPLT to remit $4.1 million to the general fund.

Rep. Oscar M. Babauta (Cov-Saipan) introduced House Bill 16-280 on Sept. 22, but the House has yet to act on the bill almost a month after FY 2009 had ended.

Press secretary Charles Reyes, when asked for comment yesterday, said those funds are much needed by the CNMI government, with falling revenues.

"This transfer is vitally important and clearly serves the public interest. The administration appreciates the support of the MPLT board and the Legislature in backing this transfer of funds for vital public purposes involving government operations," Reyes said.

He added that earnings from MPLT investments ought to be transferred to the general fund.

"MPLT overhead and administrative expenses must be kept to a minimum. Funds must be prudently invested and money needs to be moved to the general fund for legislative appropriation, as envisioned and mandated by our Constitution," Reyes said.

During the MPLT board meeting, MPLT counsel Bruce McMillan asked Santos what "securities to sell" to satisfy the motion to transfer $4.1 million, to which Santos said the counsel should go over the normal administrative procedure on draw downs.

Inos, a former secretary of Finance, said it is "imperative" that the legislation is passed as it is a resource listed for appropriation in P.L. 16-32 and House Concurrent Resolutions 16-2 and 16-3.

He said without the $4.1 million, the CNMI government's "ailing fiscal budget will be further jeopardized."

CUC

From Page 1

In a Sept. 30, 2009 conference with EPA, it was disclosed that that the United States is seriously concerned with CUC's lack of compliance with many important provisions in stipulated orders 1 and 2.

"CUC's difficulty in achieving compliance during the first six months after entry of the orders is especially troubling," EPA told CUC executive director Tony Muña, adding that although EPA explored possible options for moving forward, the U.S. believes strict adherence to the deadline is necessary to protect public health and the environment.

EPA said the potential for oil spills is the most urgent concern that must be addressed by CUC. It ordered CUC to immediately resolve problems on oil spills before another typhoon threatens the company's facilities and operations. CUC has a growing stockpile of used oil at its Lower Base facility.

Although the two recent typhoon threats did not materialize into serious storms, EPA said these events highlight the very serious threat of oil release to the environment that currently exist at the CUC facilities.

As required under Stipulated Order 2, CUC must implement actions to prevent, abate or minimize the discharge or threat of discharge of oil or hazardous substances from its facilities.

The U.S. will seek cost recovery from CUC for these measures and will seek to do so for additional federal resources utilized to mitigate releases or threats of release from CUC facilities.

The stipulated orders deal with the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.

Under Stipulated Order 1, CUC failed to meet a total of six provisions, resulting in total penalties of $404,000 as of Oct. 16, or the first six months of the orders.

These include:

■ $240,000 penalty as of July 19 for failing to hire a full-time deputy executive director. As proof, deputy director for water and waste water operations Bruce Megarr continue to sign and certify and send to EPA all of CUC's submissions under SO1;

■ $48,000 penalty for not hiring a full-time chief financial officer. EPA said it is not clear why CUC has delayed and continues to delay soliciting candidates for the post; and

■ $48,000 penalty for not hiring a full-time Drinking Water and Waste Water Division manager as required by the order.

■ $22,000 as of Oct. 16 for not submitting an organizational evaluation and reorganization plan, although CUC indicated that it has completed the water and wastewater operations portion of this plan;

■ $24,000 for non-submission of a complete report on drinking water meter reading program and documentation that it has commenced billing on all existing metered customers based on consumption; and

■ $22,000 for failing to turn in the complete interim financial plan. CUC, *Saipan Tribune* learned, only submitted partial documentation of the plan and did not say when it will submit the whole packet.

Under Stipulated Order 2, CUC was fined total of $230,000 for the following noncompliance:

■ $1,000 for not reporting about the oil spill that caused or may have caused a substantial threat of discharge from the power plant that occurred on Sept. 13. CUC only reported the incident after two days;

■ $48,000 for not placing each drum or other containers used for the storage of oil in secondary containments;

■ $10,000 for not submitting on time the revised facility response plan to EPA; and

■ $10,000 for not submitting the request clarification about CUC's oil sampling protocol.

CUC was also penalized $6,000 for noncompliance with a health and safety plan, $10,000 for not providing EPA the opportunity to review and comment on contractors and requests for proposals for work; and $28,000 for not providing EPA the required RFP prior to the issuance.

There are a total of 13 provisions that were not met by CUC under the two stipulated orders. EPA described the actions as "alarming."

EPA is currently evaluating its next steps for enforcement of the orders.

Ex-judge Lizama backs federalization lawsuit

Former Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama has come out publicly supporting Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's lawsuit against federalization.

According to Lizama, Fitial's lawsuit lawsuit properly asks the court to determine whether Congress over-reached in enacting laws that will shift the balance of authority in key areas from the local government to the U.S. federal government.

Lizama recalled that the federal government first tried to take over in the late 1990s, in an effort to stop what was then perceived to be human rights abuses by garment factories. The original purpose of the federal takeover, Lizama said, had nothing to do with homeland security.

Lizama said when the federal takeover bill resurfaced in 2008, it was passed by Congress, not because it was still needed because by the time the federal takeover was passed in 2008, all but perhaps about two garment factories were gone, and now they are all gone.

"Governor Fitial has taken a stance on the behalf of those of us who believe the U.S. Congress exceeded their scope of legislative authority," said Lizama.

"It is important to recognize that throughout U.S. history there has been a political tug-of-war going on between those who support states' rights and believe that federal power should be narrow, and those who favor a strong federal government with broad powers," said Lizama. "The U.S. Founding Fathers themselves argued strongly over this issue in drafting the U.S. Constitution. Thomas Jefferson was the leader of the states' rights group. He understood that local government requires real authority to provide for the needs of the local community."

Lizama argues that "certainly no one would say that Thomas Jefferson was less of an American because he stood up for the rights of local government. The same goes for Governor Fitial and all those who appreciate and support his bold act of going before the courts."

Lizama does not think federalization is an "inevitable consequence" of the CNMI's relationship with the U.S., arguing that the Covenant was designed to ensure that the CNMI would retain important local autonomy even in midst of a powerful federal government.

"What limits does the Covenant places on federal power?—that is a question worth asking each and every time a federal law impacting our islands is passed by Congress, even if we have to ask those questions in federal court," said Lizama.

Lizama agrees with Fitial's argument that while it is true that the United States can take control of local immigration, the United States has no right to interfere with local labor laws.

"Our priority should be to give Governor Fitial a chance to litigate the issues. He is doing that now in the proper forum for all of us," said Lizama. ***(PR)***

Politicians do favors for others.

Lawmakers work for all of us.

In these times of change, the CNMI needs lawmakers, not politicians.

VOTE for TINA SABLAN for Senate!

☑ #5 on the ballot

Paid for by Friends of Tina Sablan

MVA gives 11,000 tourist kids Saipan-da backpacks

Saipan-da is a cartoon style mascot that has helped increase awareness of Saipan and the Northern Mariana Islands and is a household word in Japan. MVA

Over 11,000 children visiting the Northern Mariana Islands over the last three months have returned home with a special reminder of their trip, courtesy of the Marianas Visitors Authority.

From July 1 to Oct. 9, 2009, each visiting children under the age of 11 received a coupon redeemable for a free, limited edition Saipan-da Backpack. This year's redesigned backpacks include an emblem to mark the 10th anniversary of the Happy Children in Paradise campaign, among other changes.

"Through the years, Happy Children in Paradise has been one of our most successful on-island campaigns," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "Next year, we plan to make it even easier for families to redeem their coupons and get their Saipan-da backpacks on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The children really seem to love them and can be seen sporting the trendy packs in their home countries, which helps to spur tourism here."

Saipan-da is a cartoon style mascot that has helped increase awareness of Saipan and the Northern Mariana Islands and is a household word in Japan, the Northern Marianas' primary market. The word Saipan-da is a play on words in the Japanese language and fosters a good image there.

Throughout the summer, backpack coupons were redeemed at the DFS Galleria's Saipan-da Corner during regular business hours. A life-size Saipan-da mascot greeted children each evening as well. On Tinian and Rota, coupons were redeemed at local hotels.

This year's campaign was co-sponsored by the Japan Saipan Travel Association and the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands. ***(MVA)***

Thanks For Giving Walk has new date

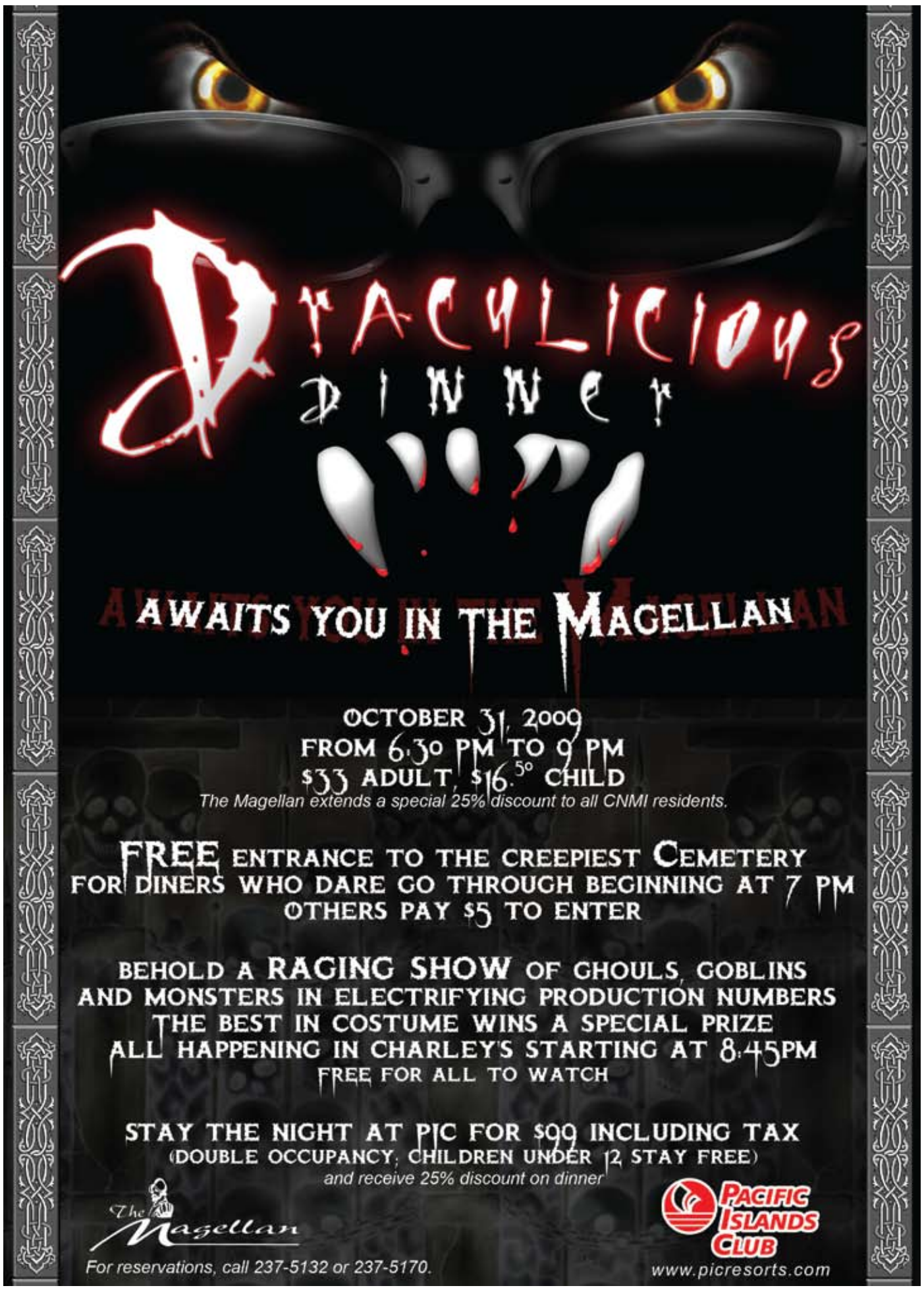
The Team Courage sponsored walk has been rescheduled to Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009.

The Thanks For Giving Walk is coordinated by CNMI cancer survivors and will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base, starting at 7am.

Participating in this event is an opportunity for families and friends to get a head start in fielding a team for the MMAC event next year.

Veteran teams for the MMAC have already begun fundraising.

Interested in joining, but don't have a team yet? No worries! Contact Janine Nogis at 483-4207 or send an email to MMAC2010@googlegroups.com. ***(PR)***


Draculicious Dinner
AWAITS YOU IN THE MAGELLAN
OCTOBER 31, 2009
FROM 6:30 PM TO 9 PM
$33 ADULT, $16.50 CHILD
The Magellan extends a special 25% discount to all CNMI residents.
FREE ENTRANCE TO THE CREEPIEST CEMETERY
FOR DINERS WHO DARE GO THROUGH BEGINNING AT 7 PM
OTHERS PAY $5 TO ENTER
BEHOLD A RAGING SHOW OF GHOULS, GOBLINS
AND MONSTERS IN ELECTRIFYING PRODUCTION NUMBERS
THE BEST IN COSTUME WINS A SPECIAL PRIZE
ALL HAPPENING IN CHARLEY'S STARTING AT 8:45PM
FREE FOR ALL TO WATCH
STAY THE NIGHT AT PIC FOR $99 INCLUDING TAX
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Russia's political murders

Murders of human rights activists in Russia have been happening with such frequency that some will be tempted to shrug at the brutal slaying on Sunday of Maksharip Aushev, who campaigned against abuses by the security forces in the Caucasian republic of Ingushetia. He was driving on a major highway, in broad daylight, when a car pulled up beside him and delivered a fusillade of bullets. His funeral came two months after that of Zarema Sadulayeva, the head of a children's charity in neighboring Chechnya, and her husband, who were shot and stuffed in a car trunk. Those murders, in turn, followed the July 15 killing of Natalya Estemirova, Chechnya's most prominent human rights activist.

No one has been arrested, much less held responsible, in any of these cases. No one has been charged for the murder last Jan. 19 of human rights lawyer Stanislav Markelov and journalist Anastasia Baburova, who were gunned down on a busy street just blocks from the Kremlin. The murderers of journalist Anna Politkovskaya, who was assassinated outside her Moscow apartment three years ago this month, remain at large. These courageous men and women had in common their effort to hold Russian security forces accountable for the extrajudicial killings, torture and rape of innocent civilians in Chechnya, Ingushetia and other Caucasus republics.

Russia leader Vladimir Putin has been shrugging at this gangsterism all along. He disparaged Ms. Politkovskaya, one of the country's most renowned journalists, shortly after her death, and he's had nothing to say about the recent killings. President Dmitry Medvedev has been a little more responsive, expressing regrets and once meeting with editors of the newspaper where Ms. Politkovskaya and Ms. Baburova worked. But he doesn't seem to have much influence over his country's security forces. A year ago Mr. Medvedev replaced the governor of Ingushetia after Mr. Aushev led protests against the killing of an opposition journalist. But the new governor was powerless to stop the latest assassination, which he blamed on "power-wielding structures."

Everyone in Russia knows who he is talking about: the lawless gunmen commanded by the Kremlin-backed ruler of Chechnya, Ramzan Kadyrov, and the Federal Security Service, which is the successor to Mr. Putin's KGB. Russians also know that Mr. Putin could put a stop to the state-sponsored murders if he chose to; he does not. This is not new, of course. Past Kremlin rulers have used murder to shore up their authority. Not since the time of Joseph Stalin, however, have the political killings been so blatant—or so chillingly common.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post

The GI Bill is looking like an IOU

By LINSAY ROUSSEAU BURNETT
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

In the military, I learned to expect screw-ups, especially when it came to money. So maybe the Department of Veterans Affairs is just trying to ease my transition to civilian life by doing things the military way in its handling of Post 9/11 GI Bill education benefits.

Student veterans began applying for education benefits in May, and we were supposed to have our tuition paid and receive our housing and book stipends in August. That didn't happen.

Instead, more than two months into the school year, most of us have received nothing, although the VA is graciously offering to advance us emergency checks of up to $3,000 to ease the economic burden of not yet receiving the money we were promised.

Along with health care, job experience and a steady paycheck, the GI Bill was one of my primary reasons for joining the Army in 2004. I went into the military -- and spent a year in Kirkuk province in northern Iraq -- with the express intention of pursuing graduate studies when my contract was up. Truth be told, I wouldn't be writing this column right now, as a student at the University of California, Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism, were it not for the GI Bill. Or, at least, for the promise of the GI Bill.

At this rate, it will take longer for the VA to get me my education benefits than it took for the Army to turn me into a soldier.

Why can't student vets get the money we were promised back when the Post 9/11 GI Bill was signed in July 2008? According to Paul Sherbo, a VA spokesman, the department has been overwhelmed with new applications and the backlog has caused massive delays.

By the VA's own count, more than a quarter of a million education claims have been filed by eligible veterans since May 1, and about 70 percent of those have been processed.

While this might sound great, let's not confuse processing with disbursement of funds. As of the first week in October, despite having about 900 employees working overtime to process claims, the VA had distributed only 27,000 payments for tuition or for living and book stipends.

In other words, nearly 200,000 veterans hadn't received a dollar.

No one seems to be talking about the interest that's been accruing on the education loans some veterans were forced to take out while waiting for their GI Bill money. I doubt the VA will pay it. I myself have taken out almost $16,000 in education loans. Most universities require a student to pay tuition and fees up front, and turning in an IOU from Uncle Sam doesn't quite do the trick.

When I received my first tuition bill in August and realized the VA had not yet paid for my tuition and fees (nor my book and living stipends), I frantically called the financial aid office trying to figure out what to do. After a handful of calls, a financial aid representative reassured me that the loans I qualified for (and would now have to take out) would cover enough of the tuition so that I wouldn't be kicked out of school or be charged a late-payment fee.

UC Berkeley's VA representative, Michael Cooper, couldn't provide me with any further guidance. Once he submitted my paperwork to the VA, he said, it was out of his control, and he hasn't received so much as an automated e-mail from them since.

At UC San Diego, Vonda Garcia, the associate director of financial aid, said her office hasn't heard anything from the VA about the status of their students' GI Bill money or details about the emergency checks. In the meantime, her counselors are discouraging veterans from applying for the emergency payments and are going out of their way to find money for them through the university.

"We don't want to risk the VA messing up and these vets end up having to owe any more money," Garcia said.

To add insult to injury, some veterans who did receive emergency checks apparently are having trouble getting them cashed. The VA Web site doesn't say this explicitly, but notes: "In many cases these checks are handwritten and could pose concerns of fraud from banks."

There's now a special telephone number for banks to call so they can verify the check's authenticity and the veteran's identity. Perhaps tellers will have better luck than I did in penetrating the automated phone system. As soon as my call went through, a digitalized male voice informed me that the VA was experiencing a high volume of calls. Then the phone disconnected.

When Sen. Jim Webb, D-Va., said veterans "who have been serving since 9/11 should have the same opportunity for a first-class educational future as those who served during World War II," I believed him. So did hundreds of thousands of my fellow student veterans. While sweltering under the weight of 70 pounds of body armor in Iraq, grateful to make it through the day in one piece, the prospect of returning to school and planning for the future was something to keep me focused. I even kept several GRE study guides in my room, though I rarely had time to open them.

But those days are behind me. Or so I thought. Now, as my fellow student veterans and I are moving on with our lives, we are forced to once again resort to military tactics -- we'll suck it up and drive on.

Linsay Rousseau Burnett served with the U.S. Army's 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, and is now a student at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

All Ghosts' Day to Capital Hill

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

It was 1977 in the village of Maliwada not too far from the Ellora Caves in Aurangabad, Maharashtra that I ran into Gandhi's imagery of his role in society. I had joined Indian colleagues as they bridged the abysmal and wide chasm between the Caste and the Untouchable (Gandhi's *Harijans*) residents in a cutting edge social demonstration project.

Gandhi had previously addressed those who would follow in his footsteps, in the same fashion as the Nazarene was thought to have pacified his disciples who were jockeying for status and primal political position, that he was nothing but a "doormat" of society, to take upon himself society's "dirt" and serve in the process as a transforming force within that society. Nothing can be more humbling than to be confronted by the clear objectivity of Mahatma greatness!

Close to the image of the doormat is that of the *trapo,* which is a "rag" in Spanish used to wipe the dust off furniture, or as a wet rag to swirl through spillage on the floor or on tabletops. In the inimitable Pinoy sense of humor, they also refer to their traditional politicians as *trapos,* but they do not mean that in the same functional sense that Gandhi meant when referring to public service, but in the comic sense of disposable rags like throwaway paper towels.

Filipinos have good reasons for referring to their entrenched politicians this way, though disposing of them is almost an impossible feat. A cursory glance at the family names associated with the 1935 unicameral legislature of the Philippines when it became a Commonwealth with the United States would show that the same family names still dominate the halls of the current *Batasang Pambansa* (Congress of the Philippines). A remarkable similarity between the Philippine experience and that of the Northern Marianas is often pointed out, though pushing the analogy further, a rather stunning reality check, is not always a welcomed intrusion to my Chamolinian friends!

Today, we combine the eastern affinity to the memory of ancestors commonly practiced from Indochina to Hokkaido and points along the isles between the China Sea and the Pacific Ocean, to that of the Iberian celebration of departed souls, and the ghoulish Mayan feast of the dead. Add to the stew this day the last political rally of the season before the final countdown to the Nov. 7 election, and we have a feast day that marks the journey from womb to tomb!

In a listserv where islanders freely exchange thoughts, one e-mail came across my laptop this week with this lament: "if anyone can say one good thing about any of the candidates, that candidate will get my vote." That pretty much sums up the sentiment of many voters in the gubernatorial part of this election. It is a battle of negative press. Of the above query, I got one response purportedly promoting Heinz's candidacy. The good deed happened 15 years ago!

I had never written this column to sway election choices, save my endorsement of Tina and Angelo's quixotic endeavors, which is not to say that I do not have political opinions. *Au contraire, mon ami,* as Monique would say, "you are very politically opinionated." Election choices, however, have the sanctity of the old confessional (in this case, the election booth), and I am not about to be sacrilegious in that department.

Tandems vying for occupancy of the Executive Office up Capital Hill for the next three years, in alphabetical order, are the teams of: Ben and Eloy, HP, JunPan and Joe, and Kumoi-Borja. I did use numerology as a screen in discussing the election of our Washington Rep (for which a buddy had never forgiven me for my, in his opinion, misplaced sense of humor!) so this time, I shall portray images flying around about our island bets like *Siquijor* lassies in this day of ghouls!

Offhand, we want to affirm that all gents (don't we have any matriarchs capable of either of these leadership positions?) are honorable; they have proven to have developed healthy egos sufficient for survival, and functional personalities acceptable in conduct within our social milieu to have attained their current status. Whether they are trapped in their egos and personalities, or have transformed their characters beyond them, is a judgment each voter will have to make on their own.

In reverse alphabetical order, we begin with our "managers." Kumoi who was close kin to one of my 6th grade students, prides himself for his tenure at CUC, and for that record, he shall be gauged. Dr. Borja's reputation for organizational discipline derives from his time with the military, and with their monumental tasks of logistical management, we doff our hat to the short-lived Education Commish. Management skills are the high selling points of this duo.

JunPan and Joe's attraction bridges the alleged practicality of JunPan's stint in the business sector to the visionary aptitude of a legislative greenhorn who has proven himself to have technological savvy and a light but lingering touch with his loyal following and political constituency. The business connection is both a blessing and a curse. Business' idolatry of profit's bottom line renders, at best, this sector's mercenary nature that dances to the latest tune of the most recent pied piper who hits our shores.

The history of the islands' economy has been mostly in spinning off of the monies from Uncle Sam, on the one hand, and in recent years, the recycling of revenue and fees collected from garment and visitors' industries, on the other. The alleged multiplier effect is a mathematical illusion considering the high remittance rate and high cost of public services incurred in support of an alien labor force.

Since resources, equipment, labor and management of both industries are externally dependent, except the natural capital progressively being despoiled, the business sector's record on the local economy is more of a parasite rather than a self-propagating resource. (My two economist colleagues who write in this page might want to refine or debunk this analysis!)

HP (Hofschneider-Palacios) should be a shoo-in, considering the predominance of Republican Party members on island, but the clannish nature of local politics mitigate against that. Heinz is a brain, no question; his people skills leave much to be desired. One expat of considerable clout claims, "He does not like outsiders." True or not, one of HP's young and ardent supporter declares, "I'm glad we are choosing policy makers, not personality stars."

Which brings us to Uncle Ben and Tun Eloy. On warmth and cuddliness, and homegrown-one-of-us-ness, this tandem beats the crowd hands down. Being the incumbents, and former executives of business concerns exalted and reviled, Ben and Eloy elicit venom and kudos from detractors and supplicants galore. There is no middle ground.

In this atmosphere of lukewarm enthusiasm, people who will stay away from the polls favor the incumbents. Being a democrat, we want registered voters to go out and exercise their privilege and right. Vote!

US needs to keep its allies in Afghanistan

By LEO MICHEL AND ROBERT HUNTER
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

"There is only one thing worse than fighting with allies," observed Winston Churchill in 1945, "and that is fighting without them." It's a truth worth recalling as the Obama administration nears crucial decisions on Afghanistan.

American commentators often shortchange allied efforts in Afghanistan, ignoring the facts and insulting our friends. The European allies and Canada provide about half of the 73,000 troops in the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF, and they account for nearly 40 percent of Western combat deaths since 2001. Estonia, Denmark, Canada, Britain, the Netherlands and Latvia have lost more soldiers per capita than has the United States.

Bravery is not an American monopoly. Most allies report many soldiers volunteering to return to Afghanistan despite the increased violence. A Canadian officer who lost his leg in a roadside bomb attack in 2007 recently returned to Kandahar, in his words, "to do good." Dutch soldiers engaged in the dangerous Uruzgan province since 2006 have none of the uncertainty about their mission that marked those who were accused of failing to stop the 1995 Srebrenica massacre in Bosnia.

True, NATO must cope with "caveats"—restrictions imposed by some allies on how and where their forces can be employed in Afghanistan. For example, most of the nearly 4,400 German troops are effectively barred by their parliament from operating outside the relatively safe northern region, and Turkey allows its 720-man contingent to operate only in Kabul. Some allied troops are prohibited from conducting nighttime or "offensive" missions. France's military chief properly calls caveats a "poison for multinational operations," and his British counterpart insists other allies take a larger role in combat.

NATO tightly guards the detailed list of which ISAF contributors impose which caveats, but there are signs of progress. In 2006, Marine Gen. Jim Jones, then NATO's supreme allied commander, complained that 102 caveats were hobbling the ISAF's on-scene commanders. Last June, the new commander, U.S. Navy Adm. James Stavridis, told a Senate committee that although 69 caveats remained in force, 18 of the 42 ISAF contributors were "caveat free." And over the last few months, several European nations that publicly emphasize their peacekeeping role have shifted with little fanfare to more aggressive patrolling and have engaged in sharp firefights with insurgents.

Despite some wavering, the allies are not rushing for the exits. Over the last few weeks, several pledged to maintain or, in a few cases, increase their boots on the ground. Prime Minister Gordon Brown recently agreed to add an additional 500 soldiers to the 9,000-member British force—conditioned, in part, on other ISAF partners "bearing their fair share." In total, a few thousand more European troops might be added over the next year. Most of these soldiers (plus French gendarmes and members of the Italian Carabinieri) will serve as mentors for Afghan security forces, reinforcing a "line of operation" that U.S. officials see as key to reversing Taliban momentum and permitting a gradual reduction in NATO's role.

Bravery is not an American monopoly. Most allies report many soldiers volunteering to return to Afghanistan despite the increased violence.

Numbers don't tell the whole story. French President Nicolas Sarkozy recently announced, perhaps imprudently, that he "won't send an additional soldier" to the nearly 3,100-strong French contingent in the ISAF. Still, the French are boosting the combat punch of their 600-man battalion in the volatile eastern region, which is due to be reinforced by larger French units now based in Kabul.

Of course European allies should be encouraged to do more militarily. But excessive American finger-pointing, as NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen warns, could produce the opposite effect because most allied governments are more convinced than their publics of the dangers posed by unchecked violent extremists in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Moreover, military power alone will not suffice. European countries and Canada provide critical civilian expertise and funding for reconstruction and development, bilaterally and through the European Union. The EU's portion—about 1.5 billion Euros since 2002—is relatively modest, however; given its unparalleled civilian capacities, the EU can and should do more to help Afghans retake control of their future.

The 28 NATO heads of state and government (of which 21 are EU members) endorsed this "comprehensive approach" to integrating civilian and military efforts at their April 2008 and April 2009 summits. Indeed, the leaked assessment by the ISAF commander, U.S. Army Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, reads like a playbook for putting that approach into action. Meeting last week in Bratislava, Slovakia, NATO defense ministers offered broad support for McChrystal's assessment, although they did not discuss in detail the resource implications of his recommended way forward.

Still, to mobilize the needed international support, Washington must remember a basic rule of alliance management: No foreign political leader can persuade his or her parliament or public to rubber-stamp a strategy "made in the U.S.A." NATO allies want President Barack Obama to identify a realistic game plan to show progress over the next 12 to 18 months, but they don't want that strategy decided without their input.

Thus, the administration's consultations with its allies—in Washington, in NATO's political and military councils and in allied capitals—must be continuous and, above all, credible. This requires a sincere willingness to listen—as Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, to his credit, demonstrated in Bratislava—and not just instruct. A tough task, to be sure, but as Churchill warned, the alternative would be far worse.

Leo Michel is senior research fellow at the Institute for National Strategic Studies. Robert Hunter is senior adviser at Rand Corp. and former U.S. ambassador to NATO. These are their personal views.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87 ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲85	▼76
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼77
Yap	Cloudy	▲85	▼76
Chuuk	Rain	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼73
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲87	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲84	▼75

Around The Globe

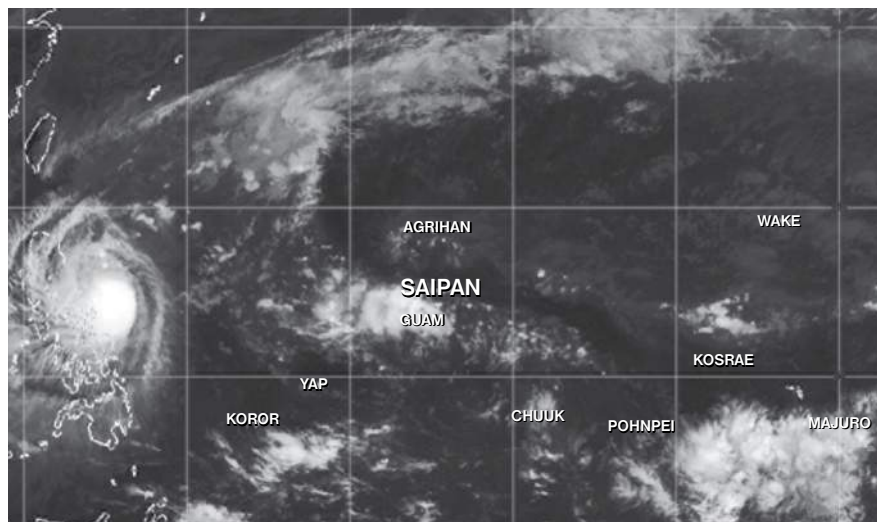
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲62	▼52
Beijing	Cloudy	▲50	▼37
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼77
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼74
London	Partly Sunny	▲63	▼52
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲82	▼56
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▲91	▼75
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲83	▼57
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲88	▼76
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲66	▼52
Osaka	Partly Sunny	▲74	▼60
Paris	Partly Sunny	▲65	▼52
Pusan	Cloudy	▲72	▼55
Rome	Sunny	▲62	▼35
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲61	▼40
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼54
Seoul	Showers	▲61	▼48
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲68	▼59
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲75	▼55

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:52 AM Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:43 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
5:37 PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Low level convergence along a weakly-defined monsoon trough is helping to generate an area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the southern Mariana islands between 12N and 14N from 138E to 146E and then primarily as isolated thunderstorms further east to 154E. A small area of scattered showers and few thunderstorms just north of Chuuk are also being influenced by this trough. South of Koror and Yap converging west winds south of the monsoon trough axis are helping to create an area of scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from 4N to 7N between 134E to 142E. An area of scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms over Kosrae and just east of Pohnpei are associated with a westward moving trough of low pressure south of Kosrae. Satellite imagery shows the bulk of the weather associated with this system located between 2N and 8N from 160E to 170E to the northwest of the Marianas. Satellite imagery shows a weak frontal zone extending into the region south of 25N between 130E and 140 creating mostly light scattered showers.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Monday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Tuesday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM
Wednesday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:47 PM	3:36 AM
Sunday	4:26 PM	4:27 AM
Monday	5:10 PM	5:21 AM
Tuesday	5:58 PM	6:18 AM
Tuesday	6:52 PM	7:19 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

Schedule of Religious Services

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

Saint Jude Parish
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

San Antonio Parish
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

San Vicente Parish
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

Santa Soledad
Sunday: 7:30am

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (English)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church Koblerville
Sunday Services
9:00 AM
Place of the church-next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Chalan Kanoa Dr. • Tel: 322-6158
Pastor JJ Matsumoto

Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am– 12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Saipan Bible Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio
Sunday
9am Sunday school
10am Regular worship
6pm worship
Wednesday
7pm worship
Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 31, 2000

OPA recommendations ignored
The Office of the Public Auditor is closely working with the commission created by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to ensure swift actions are taken by agencies on recommendations issued by the autonomous government accounting agency. This, as the OPA disclosed that about 82 percent of all recommendations issued as of end-June 1999 are considered delinquents because of the respective government agencies' failure to put in place immediate solutions. A report released Monday revealed that OPA has issued 34 recommendations in the first half of the calendar year, which add up to the existing 194 suggestions still to be acted upon by offices that were audited.

Second Jollibee store opens in January
Saipan is in for an exciting hamburger war when popular Filipino fast food restaurant, Jollibee, opens it second store on the island during the latter part of January 2000, in what appears to be a move that levels the playing field with American giant McDonald's. Construction of the second Jollibee restaurant on Saipan, located adjacent to the Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa, has been ongoing since July this year and is expected to be completed in time for the scheduled grand opening early next year. Jollibee will open its second restaurant on Saipan a little over a year since the popular Filipino fast food restaurant entered the hamburger quick service industry in the Northern Marianas during the latter part of 1999.

Oct. 31, 2001

Security tight on election day
The Department of Public Safety will impose tight security measures at each of the 11 designated polling places on Saturday to ensure a peaceful and uninterrupted 2001 general elections. Police Major Clyde Norita yesterday unveiled the Public Safety Response Plan that carries new provisions in defense against the worst possible scenario, amid the spate of terrorist threats. "The new provisions are in light of the possible bomb threats, possible attempts of chemical or biological threat that would somehow disrupt the voting process," Norita told reporters during a press conference.

None of Stanley's 3 bills made it into law
If legislative performance is based on the number of bills introduced, Rep. Jesus T. Attao would be at the top of the House of Representatives heap, with 50 bills authored since the start of the 12th CNMI Legislature. However, if the performance index is based on the number of bills introduced that actually made it into laws, Reps. Malua T. Peter and Oscar M. Babauta would both share the spotlight, with seven bills apiece that were signed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio into law. In both instances, though, Rep. Stanley T. Torres comes out as the cellar dweller, with the least number of bills filed-three-of which none made it into law.

Oct.31, 2002

NMI to join forces with Guam, Hawaii to seek Compact-Impact reimbursement
The U.S. and Foreign Affairs Committee is pressing to collect millions of dollars of Compact-Impact reimbursement owed to the Commonwealth by forging a partnership with other impacted entities, Guam and Hawaii. Panel chairman Rep. William S. Torres reported to the House of Representatives yesterday that his committee has been meeting with Guam and Hawaii delegates to set out a unified and defensible plan that would earn the support of the U.S. Congress. "We have been submitting reports year after year to the Department of the Interior with the estimated amount of expenditures on behalf of the Compact- Impact. Unfortunately, the CNMI and Hawaii have not been getting its share as much as what Guam has received. At one time, Guam received almost $10 million while the CNMI, the lowest amount we got was $150,000 to $200,000. The disparity is just too great," explained Torres.

NMIA submits new workers' compensation tariff manual
The Northern Marianas Insurance Association has submitted to the Office of Insurance Commission a new tariff and underwriting manual with tailored classifications that would provide uniformity in the workers' compensation tariff. The new manual will prevent insurance firms from cheating on workers' tariff and compensation rates. If found in violation of the new schedule, insurance firms will be slapped with unfair practice charges or face a possible closure. The new tariff would standardize the premium rates, local insurance officials said.

Business

Investors rush back into stocks as economy grows

NEW YORK (AP)—Stocks logged their best day in three months as investors rushed into the market on word the economy grew faster than expected during the summer.

The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 200 points Thursday to recoup most of its losses for the week, while demand for safe-haven holdings like Treasurys wilted.

The Commerce Department's report that gross domestic product rose at an annual rate of 3.5 percent in the third quarter reinvigorated investors who had dumped stocks for much of the week on signs of a slowing housing market and a disappointing report on consumer confidence.

The economic growth came in ahead of the 3.3 percent rise forecast by economists polled by Thomson Reuters. It was the strongest growth in two years and broke four straight quarters of declines. Coming on the 80th anniversary of the stock market crash that triggered the Great Depression, it was the best indication yet that the longest recession since then has ended.

But many analysts caution that it will be hard to sustain the growth at the pace seen in the third quarter.

Government stimulus programs including the popular Cash for Clunkers auto rebates and tax credits for first-time home buyers bolstered the economy. Once the government's stimulus measures run their course, the economy could run afoul of lingering problems such as high unemployment and weak consumer spending.

"I don't think that at this point in the rebound that the economy would be self-sustainable," said Jason D. Pride, director of research at Haverford Investments in Philadelphia. "The only way to have effective sustained economic growth is to have job growth, but it tends to come later."

Analysts say the recovery is likely to be bumpy as consumers try to pay down debt and credit for small businesses remains tight.

But such concerns were pushed aside Thursday.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 199.89, or 2.1 percent, to 9,962.58. It was the best day for the Dow since July 15.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 23.48, or 2.3 percent, to 1,066.11, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 37.94, or 1.8 percent, to 2,097.55.

Financial overhaul bill gets wary reception

WASHINGTON (AP)—An Obama administration plan to dissolve large, struggling financial firms rather than bail them out is encountering Republican resistance, Democratic doubts and only qualified support from regulators.

At a House Financial Services hearing Thursday, lawmakers from both parties worried that the proposal would give regulators and the executive branch unprecedented power.

"I'm not a man that fears this administration or you," Rep. Paul Kanjorski, D-Pa., told Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner. "But I do fear the accumulation of power exercised by someone in the future that can be extraordinary."

Others argue that by singling out financial firms important to the economy, the government could inevitably set itself up to bail them out, and that even dismantling rather than rescuing them would take taxpayer money.

"Apparently, the `too big to fail' model is too hard to kill," quipped Republican Rep. Ed Royce of California.

Rep. Brad Sherman, D-Calif., called the bill "TARP on steroids," referring to the government's $700 billion Wall Street rescue fund.

"You've got permanent, unlimited bailout authority," he told Geithner.

Geithner disagreed.

"The only authority we would have would be to manage their failure," he told the committee.

The debate comes as Congress works on legislation to respond to the financial crisis that clobbered Wall Street last year and fed the recession.

For the committee's chairman, Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., who wrote the proposal in close coordination with Treasury, the broad skepticism illustrates the delicate work needed to tackle such a big task.

The legislation would let federal regulators identify and monitor big financial firms and step in to wind them down before they collapse. If the government must use taxpayer money to dissolve a company, Treasury would recoup those costs by imposing a fee on firms with assets of at least $10 billion.

When to create such a fund has become a significant point of contention.

Frank and the administration recommended that any taxpayer infusion be recovered after the fact from large institutions.

But Sheila Bair, the head of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., which would conduct such a wind down, said the industry should pay into an insurance-like fund ahead of time. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill., and AFL-CIO president Richard Trumka pressed for a similar structure.

Nation

House Dems unveil health bill, cheered on by Obama

WASHINGTON (AP)—Cheered by President Barack Obama, House Democrats rolled out landmark legislation Thursday to extend health care to tens of millions who lack coverage, impose sweeping new restrictions on the insurance industry and create a government-run option to compete with private insurers.

But even as party leaders pointed toward a vote next week, there were fresh questions that went to the heart of their ambitious drive to remake the nation's health care system.

Congressional budget experts predicted the controversial government insurance option would probably cost consumers somewhat more than private coverage. At the same time, rank-and-file conservative Democrats sought additional information about the bill's overall impact on federal health care spending.

There was no official estimate on the total cost of the legislation, which ran to 1,990 pages. The Congressional Budget Office said the cost of additional coverage alone was slightly more $1 trillion over a decade. But that omitted other items, including billions for disease prevention programs.

Yet another $230 billion or more in higher fees for doctors treating Medicare patients, included in an earlier version of the bill, was stripped out and will be voted on separately.

The measure "covers 96 percent of all Americans, and it puts affordable coverage in reach for millions of uninsured and underinsured families, lowering health care costs for all of us," boasted Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., at a ceremony attended by dozens of Democratic lawmakers.

AP

Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., left, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif., hold a gavel during a news conference about health care, Thursday, Oct. 29,2009, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Ethics panel starts probes of 2 Dems, gets hacked

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House ethics committee announced Thursday it is investigating two California Democratic lawmakers, but its embarrassed leaders then had to explain that other members—named in a confidential memo that leaked out—may have committed no wrongdoing.

The committee said it is investigating whether Rep. Maxine Waters used her influence to help a bank in which her husband owned stock, and whether the couple benefited as a result. Separately, the panel is investigating whether Rep. Laura Richardson failed to disclose required information on her financial disclosure forms and received special treatment from a lender.

As the House was conducting scheduled votes Thursday, ethics chairwoman Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., went to the microphone to announce that a confidential weekly report of the committee from July had leaked out in a case of "cyber-hacking."

A committee statement said its security was breached through "peer to peer file sharing software" by a junior employee who was working from home. The staff member was fired.

The July report contains a summary of the committee's work at the time, but Lofgren said no inferences should be made about anyone whose name is mentioned.

The committee makes a public announcement when it begins an investigation of potential rule-breaking, which is conducted by an investigative subcommittee whose members also are made public.

However, the weekly reports include a summary of the committee's work at an earlier stage, when its members and staff scrutinize lawmakers to see whether an investigation is warranted.

The Washington Post reported in its online edition Thursday that the document was disclosed on a publicly accessible computer network and made available to the newspaper by a source familiar with such networks.

ACROSS THE NATION

Big snowstorm moving out of Colorado to Kan., Neb.

DENVER (AP)—A large, powerful autumn snowstorm slowly moved out of Colorado Thursday and trudged toward Nebraska and Kansas, causing blizzard-like conditions on the eastern plains and leaving in its wake treacherous roads and hundreds of canceled flights. The storm dropped more than 3 feet of snow in areas of the foothills west of Denver and closed schools and businesses. Roads across the region remained snowpacked and icy, shutting down the Mount Rushmore National Memorial in western South Dakota. "Big storms like these, they seem to come around every 10 to 12 years," said Kyle Fredin, a National Weather Service meteorologist. The storm also spread a blanket of white from northern Utah's Wasatch Front to western Nebraska's northern border with South Dakota.

Texas law on children seeing porn being challenged

DALLAS (AP)—A 1970s-era Texas law that allows parents to show "harmful material" to their children has come under fire after a prosecutor said he couldn't file charges against a man accused of forcing his 8- and 9-year-old daughters to watch hardcore online pornography. Randall County District Attorney James Farren has asked the Texas attorney general's office to review his decision not to pursue charges in the case, which has prompted at least one lawmaker to vow to change the state's public indecency law. "Our hands are tied. It's not our fault. I have to follow the law," Farren said Thursday. "The mother of the victims in this case was less than happy with this decision, which I understand. We were less than happy with the statute." The law apparently was meant to protect the privacy of parents who wanted to teach children about sex education, but it states clearly that parents can't be prosecuted for showing "harmful material" to their children.

Getting enough sleep? Study says they aren't in West Virginia

ATLANTA (AP)—Sleepless in Seattle? Hardly. West Virginia is where people are really staying awake, according to the first government study to monitor state-by-state differences in sleeplessness.

West Virginians' lack of sleep was about double the national rate, perhaps a side effect of health problems such as obesity, experts said.

Nearly 1 in 5 West Virginians said they did not get a single good night's sleep in the previous month. The national average was about 1 in 10, according to a federal health survey conducted last year and released Thursday.

Tennessee, Kentucky and Oklahoma also were notably above average in their reported lack of sleep. In contrast, North Dakota had fewer problems sleeping, with only 1 in 13 reporting that degree of sleeplessness.

Health officials do not know the exact reasons for the differences.

"We didn't ask 'Why didn't you get enough rest or sleep?'" said Lela McKnight-Eily, an epidemiologist for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention who led the study.

But experts noted several possible explanations: West Virginia ranks at or near the bottom of the nation in several important measurements of health, including obesity, smoking, heart disease and the proportion of adults with disabilities. Studies have increasingly found sleeping problems in people with certain health problems, including obesity.

"You would expect to see poorer sleep within a chronically diseased population," noted Darrel Drobnich of the National Sleep Foundation, a nonprofit advocacy and research organization.

Some experts believe sleep-deprived people are more inclined to eat fatty foods during the day.

COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
P.O. Box 500470 Saipan. MP 96950-0470
Tel: (670) 664.VOTE / Fax: (670) 664-8689
http://www.votecnmi.gov.mp/

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (a) and (b), the Commonwealth Election Commission, hereby give notice that the Commonwealth Election Commission will meet at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2009, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center, Susupe, Saipan. Additional information concerning this meeting is available at the Office of the Election Commission, currently located at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center, Susupe, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary Matters
a. Roll call
b. Adoption of agenda

II. Executive Director's Report

III. Old Business
a. Election Procedures

IV. Miscellaneous

V. Adjournment

/s/ FRANCES M. SABLAN
Chairwoman

(The Commission, pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, may vote to meet in executive session to consult legal counsel and discuss personnel matters.)

MEETING NOTICE

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, November 3, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.** at the MVA Conference Room, San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) **Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
• August 31, 2009/September 2, 2009

2) **Public Comments**

3) **Committee Reports**
1. Finance
a. FY 2010 Budget
2. Policy
3. Personnel
4. Ad Hoc Reports

4) **Old Business**

5) **New Business**
a. MVA Website
b. AERA Magazine Advertisement
c. DELTA In-flight Magazine Advertisement
d. RFP for Legal Counsel Services
e. China and Russia Marketing Programs beyond January 2010.

6) **Executive Session**

7) **Adjournment**

/s/ Jerry Tan
Chairman, MVA Board of Directors

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, #1242 Pohnpei Ct.
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670)664-4809 Fax No: (670)664-4814
Email: cnmihcplb@gmail.com

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on Tuesday, November 3, 2009 at 12:30pm on Saipan. The meeting will be held at Conference Room #3 at the Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Center for Public Health and Dialysis Center, Lower Navy Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Determination of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (8/26/09 and 8/28/09 board meeting)
V. Chairperson's Report
VI. Director's Report
VII. Investigator's Report
VIII. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
A. Governor's Office
B. Legislature
IX. Old Business:
A. HCPLB Draft Regulations
X. New Business:
A. CHC Emergency Declaration
XI. Applications for Board's Review
A. New/Renewal Applications
B. Pending Applications
XII. Miscellaneous Business:
XIII. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with counsel with pending or anticipated legal matters.
A. Dr. Macris Renewal License
B. Dr. Ramsey
XIV. Announcements
XV. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Dr. Janet McCullough
Chairperson

World

Passports linked to 9/11 found along Afghan border

SHERWANGAI, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistani soldiers battling their way into a Taliban stronghold along the Afghan border have seized passports that may be linked to 9/11 suspects, as they confront an enemy skilled in operating in a mountainous terrain with endless ways to wage a guerrilla war.

The military on Thursday took foreign and local journalists for a first look inside the largely lawless territory since it launched a ground offensive here in mid-October. The U.S.-backed operation is focused on a section of the tribal region where the Pakistani Taliban are based and are believed to shelter al-Qaida.

Soldiers displayed passports seized in the operation, among them a German document belonging to a man named Said Bahaji. That matches the name of a man thought to have been a member of the Hamburg cell that conceived the 9/11 attacks. Bahaji is believed to have fled Germany shortly before the attacks in New York and Washington.

The passport included a tourist visa for Pakistan and a stamp indicating he'd arrived in the southern city of Karachi on Sept. 4, 2001.

Another passport, from Spain, bears the name of Raquel Burgos Garcia. Spanish media have reported that a woman with the same name is married to Amer Azizi, an alleged al-Qaida member from Morocco suspected in both the 9/11 attacks and the Madrid train bombings in 2004.

Her family in Madrid has had no news of her since 2001, according to Spanish media. Her passport included visas to India and Iran, and the army displayed a Moroccan document with Burgos Garcia's photo and other information.

It was impossible to determine whether the passports are genuine, and German and Spanish officials did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Maj. Gen. Athar Abbas, the army's chief spokesman, said he had not realized the passports matched any prominent names, and declined further comment other than to say European militants were sprinkled throughout the area.

AP

The passport of Spanish citizen Raquel Burgos Garcia recovered during military operations against Taliban militants is displayed by Pakistani forces at Sherwangi Tor village in South Waziristan, on Thursday Oct 29, 2009.

Taliban violence threatens presidential runoff polls

KABUL (AP)—The Taliban's brazen attack on U.N. election workers undermines the U.N.'s ability to help steer Afghanistan through a runoff election in only 10 days. Although the U.N. insists it will not be deterred by the assault, another big attack could derail its limited ability to assure a credible vote and remain in the country.

Most of the U.N.'s international staff in Afghanistan were ordered to stay home Thursday, a day after militants stormed a residential hotel housing U.N. employees, killing five of them, including one American. Six other people died, including the three attackers.

The lockdown does not apply to the 140 U.N. personnel helping the Afghans prepare for the Nov. 7 presidential runoff, according to U.N. spokesman Dan McNorton. Time is running out to arrange a ballot that already faces threats ranging from Taliban violence to possibly early winter snow.

"They're going to warehouses or meetings, or the airport to check on logistics," McNorton said of U.N. election workers.

He said technical advisers will be sent to the provinces in time for the vote, although all assignments will be reviewed to make sure the staff is reasonably safe.

"Yesterday was obviously a disruption, but the work and the support that we're providing remains strong and is working," he said.

In New York, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appealed for more security personnel to protect U.N. staff and facilities in Afghanistan, especially in the run-up to next week's election.

Iran lauds nuke 'cooperation'—but hedges on deal

VIENNA (AP)—Iran's president pledged Thursday to work with the West to resolve a standoff over its nuclear program even as his country reportedly balked at a U.S.-backed deal to limit its uranium enrichment and curb its ability to make a nuclear warhead.

A Western diplomat said Iran rejected a plan to export most of its enriched uranium, offering instead to enrich it to a higher level inside the country under U.N. supervision.

The disconnect between the words of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Tehran's decision, as related by the diplomat, reflected the difficulties facing international negotiators trying to persuade Iran to give up enrichment.

Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt, whose country holds told the European Union's rotating presidency, was dismissive after seeing the offer.

"It's the same old tricks," he told the AP: "A back-and-forth for further talks."

Iran was considering a plan proposed last week by International Atomic Energy Agency chief Mohamed ElBaradei at talks involving Iran, the U.S., Russia and France. A negotiator told The Associated Press that the draft would commit Iran to delivering 70 percent of its low-enriched uranium to Russia in one shipment for further enrichment and conversion into fuel for a Tehran research reactor.

Sending that amount in one batch would leave Tehran without enough material to make weapons-grade uranium should it decide to make a warhead. Experts say Iran would need at least a year to produce enough to make up for the exported material, giving the international community a window of opportunity to persuade the Islamic Republic to freeze its enrichment program.

WORLD BRIEFS

Honduras interim gov't touts agreement on coup

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Interim President Roberto Micheletti has ordered his negotiators to sign an agreement that could lead to the reinstatement of ousted President Manuel Zelaya, but that leaves the decision in the hands of the Supreme Court and Congress. Micheletti says the agreement would create a power-sharing government and bind both sides to recognize the Nov. 29 presidential elections. Zelaya's team is not saying whether it intends to sign the agreement, which Micheletti called a "significant concession" on his part.

Clinton to meet Abbas in Abu Dhabi

ISLAMABAD (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton will travel to the Persian Gulf city of Abu Dhabi to meet Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas as part of a weekend effort to push both Palestinian and Israeli leaders to resume peace talks, a U.S. official said Friday. After her meetings in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, on Saturday, Clinton will travel to Israel to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. She will be joined by the Obama administration's special Mideast peace envoy, George Mitchell. The time and place of the meeting with Netanyahu were still being worked out early Friday, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss planning.

Somali pirates hold British couple on cargo ship

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—Paul and Rachel Chandler, a retired British couple who sailed to exotic locales aboard their 38-foot yacht, said in one of their last cheery messages they would likely be "out of touch for some time." After disappearing for a week, a somber Paul Chandler is back in contact, saying by telephone Thursday that he and his wife are being held captive by gun-toting pirates who stripped their vessel of everything of value. Despite the presence of warships and aircraft from more than a half-dozen nations, the pirates prowl the Indian Ocean off Somalia seemingly at will, pouncing on pleasure craft, fishing vessels and huge cargo ships.

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✔ Service
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Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, October 31, 2009

Bagong patakaran para sa mga alien workers sa NMI

WASHINGTON (USCIS)—Inilathala ngayon linggo ng U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services ang panghuli na pansamantalang batas sa Federal Register na lumilikha ng isang Transitional Worker visa classification sa Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Ang CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program ay isa sa ilang mga inisyatibo na nagpapatupad sa Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, na nagpapalawak sa batas sa imigrasyon ng U.S. sa CNMI.

Bagama't ang batas sa imigrasyon ng U.S. ay aaplay sa CNMI simula sa Nobyembre 28, ang isang panahon ng transisyon ay magsisimula sa petsang iyon kung kailan magsasagawa ng mga pansamantalang gawain upang pahintulutan ang maayos na transisyon mula sa permit system ng CNMI patungo sa batas ng US sa imigrasyon. Ito ay magbibigay sa foreign workers (dayuhang manggagawa) ng panahon upang malaman ang angkop na klasipikasyon ng visa alinsunod sa Immigration and Nationality Act.

Sa ilalim ng CNRA, ang isang "transitional worker" ay ipinakahulugan bilang isang alien worker na kasalukuyang hindi kwalipikado para sa ibang klasipikasyon sa ilalim ng INA at na nagseserbisyo o nagtratrabaho para sa isang tagapag-empleyo sa CNMI. Ang kategoriyang Transitional Worker Visa ay isang bagong nonimmigrant visa classification sa ilalim ng INA gamit ang admission code (kodigo ng pagpasok sa bansa) CW-1 para sa pangunahing transitional worker at CW-2 para sa mga dependent.

Ang CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program ay makukuha ng dalawang grupo ng mga nonresident: (1) ang mga legal na nasa CNMI at (2) ang mga nasa ibang bansa.

Ang mga non-resident na nakatira sa CNMI ay maaaring klasipikahin bilang CW-1 nonimmigrants kung, sa panahon ng transisyon, sila'y:

1. Papasok o mananatili sa CNMI upang magtrabaho sa isang kategoriya ng trabaho na nangangailangan ng alien workers bilang dagdag sa mga lokal na manggagawa;
2. Pinetisyon ng isang tagapag-empleyo;
3. Nakatira sa CNMI;
4. Legal na nasa CNMI; at
5. Hindi sana makakapasok sa Estados Unidos sa ibang paraan.

Maaari ring gamitin ng mga tagapag-empleyo ng CNMI ang programa ng CW-1 upang makakuha ng kwalipikadong workers na nagpupunta sa CNMI mula sa ibang bansa.

Ang panahon ng transisyon ay magsisimula sa Nobyembre 28, 2009 at magtatapos sa ika-31 ng Disyembre 2014. Ang CW classification ay valid para sa buong panahon ng transisyon. Sa katapusan ng panahon ng transisyon, magtatapos ang CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program at ang transitional workers na may ganitong status ay dapat magpalit sa ibang nonimmigrant o immigrant status sa ilalim ng INA upang manatili nang legal sa CNMI.

Sa ilalim ng CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program, ang mga tagapag-empleyo ay maaaring mag-file ng isang petisyon para sa isang transitional worker sa USCIS gamit ang Form I-129CW, Petisyon para sa isang Nonimmigrant Worker sa CNMI. Ang bagong pormularyo na ito ay minodelo sa kasalukuyang Form I-129. Ang bayad para sa Form I-129CW ay $320, ang parehong halaga na sinisingil para sa I-129 at isang $80 biometrics fee. Bukod pa rito, ang CNRA ay nag-uutos ng isang "CNMI education funding fee" na $150 para sa bawat benepisyaryo bawat taon, at ito'y hindi maaaring hindi bayaran.

Dahil sa natatanging sitwasyon sa CNMI, ang I-129CW na singil ay maaari lamang ipawalang-bisâ sa mga 'di-karaniwang sitwasyon kung saan maipapakita ng isang tagapag-empleyo na hindi mababayaran ang fee ngunit mababayaran pa rin ang suweldo ng empleyado. Mayroong ilang mga restriksyon pero maaaring mag-file ang mga tagapag-empleyo para sa multiple beneficiaries sa iisang I-129CW. Ang mga tagapag-empleyo ay kailangang magsagawa ng legal na negosyo at hindi maaaring masangkot sa prostitusyon, trafficking sa mga menor-de-edad, o anumang ibang aktibidad na hindi legal sa ilalim ng pederal o CNMI na batas.

Sa ilalim ng pansamantalang pinal na batas, kabilang sa CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program ang lahat ng mga kategoriya ng trabaho na ginagamit ngayon sa CNMI. At para sa unang taon, ang mga limit sa bilang ng CW-1 status ay batay sa sariling tantiya ng gobyerno ng CNMI sa bilang ng mga nonresident worker na 22,417. Pagkatapos ng unang taon, ibababâ ng Secretary of Homeland Security ang limit para dito.

Ang CW visa classification ay valid lamang sa CNMI at hindi batayan para sa pagbiyahe sa anumang ibang bahagi ng Estados Unidos, kabilang ang Guam. Oras na nakuha na ang status, ang CW-1 o CW-2 nonimmigrant ay maaari nang umalis sa CNMI at bumalik, pero dapat mayroon siyang angkop na visa upang makapasok muli.

Ang publiko ay hinihikayat na magsumite ng mga puna sa paggawa ng patakarang ito bago dumating ng Nobyembre 27, 2009. Dapat nakasulat ang DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 sa mga puna at ito'y dapat isumite sa isa sa mga sumusunod na paraan:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.
- E-mail: rfs.regs@dhs.gov. Isama ang DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 sa subject line.
- Mail: Chief, Regulatory Products Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529-2210. Upang masigurado ang angkop na paghawak dito, mangyaring isulat ang DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 sa inyong sulat.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

USCIS field director for Guam and the CNMI Walter L. Haith, right, gestures as he explains a point during a news briefing on Oct. 27 at the USCIS office in Garapan. Joining him at the briefing are David G. Gulick, center, district director of the USCIS for Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, and community outreach regional lead Janna Evans.

? SAGOT SA MGA KATANUNGAN

Noong Mayo 8, 2008, isinabatas ni President Bush ang Public Law 110-229, ang Consolidated Natural Resources Act ng 2008 (CNRA). Sinusugan ng Title VII ng batas na ito ang Pub. L. 94-241, ang Batas na nag-aapruba sa Covenant upang Itatag ang Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) sa Unyong Politikal nito sa Estados Unidos. Sa kauna-unahang beses, buong pinalalawak ng Title VII ang sakop ng ilang mga probisyon ng mga batas sa imigrasyon ng Estados Unidos sa CNMI. Ang panahon ng transisyon ay pormal na magsisimula sa Nobyembre 28, 2009.

T. Sino ang kwalipikado para sa CNMI-only Transitional Worker status sa CNMI?

A. Ang USCIS ay nagtatag ng isang transitional worker program para makatira at makapagtrabaho ang foreign nationals sa CNMI. Ang foreign nationals na kwalipikado para sa isang INA-based nonimmigrant status ay hindi magiging kwalipikado. Ang mga bumibisita nang sandali dahil sa negosyo o libangan ay hindi kwalipikadong makakuha ng CW na klasipikasyon dahil ang mga ganoong indibidwal ay hindi workers galing sa ibang bansa na paksâ ng pansamantalang patakaran na ito.

T. Ano ang legal na batayan para sa CNMI-only Transition Worker program?

A. Section 6(d) ng Pub. L. 94-241, tulad ng pagbago dito ng CNRA, ay nag-utos sa Secretary of Homeland Security na magtatag ng isang transisyon na programa upang tulungan ang mga tagapag-empleyo ng CNMI na kumuha ng kinakailangang workers na sa ibang paraan ay hindi kwalipikado sa ilalim ng mga batas ng imigrasyon ng US sa panahon ng transisyon na ito.

T. Ano ang layunin ng CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program?

A. Pahihintulutan ng CNMI-only Transitional Worker Program ang mga taga-ibang bansa na hindi kwalipikado para sa ibang INA-based employment authorized nonimmigrant status na magtrabaho sa CNMI sa panahon ng transisyon. Sa gayon, ang layunin ng CNMI-Only Transitional Worker visa ay ang mag-alok ng isang legal na U.S. immigration status sa mga taga-ibang bansa na kasalukuyang hindi kwalipikado para sa anumang ibang uri ng immigrant o nonimmigrant vi**sa.** Sa panahon ng transisyon, inaasahan na makakahanap ang transitional workers na ito ng angkop na pangmatagalang alternatibo sa kanilang CNMI-Only Transitional Worker status sa pamamagitan ng pagkuha ng status sa ilalim ng isang INA-based visa category, o pag-alis sa CNMI.

T. Ano ang mangyayari sa foreign workers na nasa CNMI sa Nobyembre 28, 2009?

A. Kapag nagkabisa ang Pederal na batas sa imigrasyon sa CNMI sa Nobyembre 28, 2009, ang foreign workers na may valid na pahintulot na magtrabaho sa CNMI ay maaaring manatili, manirahan, at magtrabaho sa CNMI nang hanggang dalawang taon o sa katagalan ng kanilang CNMI-based status, alinman ang mauuna. Bago magtapós ang limitadong panahon na iyon, dapat sila kumuha ng alinman sa CNMI-Only Transitional Worker status o kaya ibang legal na U.S. immigration status upang legal na makapagtrabaho at manirahan sa CNMI at makapagbiyahe mula CNMI patungo sa ibang lugar sa Estados Unidos o sa ibang bansa. Kung umalis sila sa CNMI para sa anumang dahilan, dapat mayroon silang isang valid U.S. immigration visa upang makapasok muli. Ang foreign workers na WALANG CNMI na kontrata sa trabaho ay maaaring maging "illegal" kung hindi sila kukuha ng ibang U.S. immigration status.

T. Ano ang admission code para sa visa classification na ito?

A. Gagamitin ng bagong nonimmigrant visa classification na ito ang admission code (kodigo ng pagpasok sa bansa) CW-1 para sa pangunahing transitional worker at CW-2 para sa mga dependent.

T. Ano ang ibig sabihin nito para sa foreign residents na naninirahan at nagtratrabaho na sa CNMI?

A. Para sa foreign workers na hindi kwalipikado para sa ibang uri ng U.S. immigration status, ang transitional worker visa ay isang lubos na mahalagang alternatibo. Maaari ito makapagbigay sa libu-libong foreign workers ng temporary status habang tinitiyak nila ang isang angkop na pangmatagalang immigration status para sa kanilang sarili at sa kanilang mga pamilya.

See Q&A on Next Page

Island's divas in showdown to help RP typhoon victims

The island's drag queens will face each other in a showdown at the Club Spartacus Bar Karaoke Disco in Gualo Rai, for a Halloween Bash tonight that aims to raise funds for the victims of two devastating typhoons that hit the Philippines.

"It's a rumble!" according to Miss 2009 Diva Drag Queen Jaetany Camacho, one of the organizers of the event dubbed HA-LAFF-WEEN, which will start at 9pm.

Camacho, who is also known as Aranani Star, assured that the audience will enjoy the performance of the island's divas.

"It's the moment they've been waiting for," Camacho said. "It's gays and lesbians night."

Before the showdown, China Man will perform a comedy routine.

Camacho said part of the proceeds will be donated to the victims of typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng in the Philippines.

Camacho asked the public to attend the show and enjoy Halloween while helping a good cause.

She said the entrance is only $5 and the drinks are very affordable.

Among the local performers are Shawna Evangelista, Rhonda Lizama, Berhdi, Prosti Malari, and Dora Mae.

Elsa Duenas-Nieto is the coordinator of the event. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Miss 2009 Diva Drag Queen Jaetany Camacho

Q&A

From Page 12

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Alien workers and prospective employers crowd the processing offices of the CNMI Department of Labor in San Antonio, Saipan.

T. Ano ang panahon ng transisyon?

A. Bagama't lubos na umaaplay ang batas sa imigrasyon ng Estados Unidos sa CNMI, magkakaroon ng panahon ng transisyon kung kailan may mga pansamantalang hakbang na gagawin upang pahintulutan ang maayos na transisyon mula sa permit system ng CNMI patungo sa Pederal na batas sa imigrasyon at bigyan ng panahon ang foreign non-resident workers na makahanap ng angkop na pangmatagalang INA-based visa classification. Ang panahon ng transisyon ay magsisimula sa Nobyembre 28, 2009 at magtatapos sa Disyembre 31, 2014. Maaaring makipagkonsulta ang Secretary of Labor sa mga angkop na pederal na ahensiya at sa Gobernador ng CNMI upang pahabain ang programa ng CNMI-Only Transitional Worker nang karagdagang panahon na hanggang limang taon. Kasalukuyang wala pang ginagawang desisyon sa anumang extension sa panahong ito.

T. Ano ang mga kinakailangan para sa bagong CNMI Transitional Worker visa o status?

A. Sa ilalim ng CNMI-Only Transitional Worker na programa, mayroong mga hinihiling sa kapwa tagapag-empleyo at workers.

Mga hinihiling sa mga Tagapag-empleyo—Ang mga tagapag-empleyo ay kailangang magsagawa ng legal na negosyo at hindi maaaring masangkot nang tuwiran o 'di tuwiran sa prostitusyon, trafficking sa mga menor-de-edad, o anumang ibang aktibidad na hindi legal sa ilalim ng Federal o CNMI na batas. Ang tagapag-empleyo ang siya ring dapat mag-file ng kinakailangang petisyon at magbayad sa kinakailangang fees upang bigyan ng trabaho ang transitional workers.

Mga Hinihiling sa Workers—Sa ilalim ng pansamantalang panghuling batas, ang foreign workers ay maaaring klasipikahin bilang CW-1 nonimmigrants kung, sa panahon ng transisyon, sila'y:

■ papasok o mananatili sa CNMI upang magtrabaho sa isang kategoriya ng trabaho na nangangailangan ng alien workers upang dagdagan ang lokal na workers;

■ pinetisyon ng isang tagapag-empleyo;

■ nakatira sa CNMI;

■ legal na nasa CNMI; at

■ hindi makakapasok sa Estados Unidos sa ibang paraan.

T. Ano ang kailangang gawin ng isang manggagawa upang makuha ang visa o status na ito?

A. Kailangang matupad ng foreign national worker ang criteria na nakalagay sa sagot sa itaas at humanap ng isang tagapag-empleyo na handang mag-isponsor sa kanya. Ang tagapag-empleyo ang mananagot sa pag-aplay para dito. Ang mga tagapag-empleyo ay maaaring mag-file ng isang petisyon para sa isang transitional worker sa USCIS gamit ang Form I-129CW, ang Petisyon para sa isang Nonimmigrant Worker sa CNMI. (Ang bagong pormularyo na ito ay minodelo sa kasalukuyang Form I-129.)

T. Ano ang dapat gawin ng asawa at/o anak ng worker upang makakuha ng CW-2 status?

A. Upang makasama o sumunod, ang CW-2 nonimmigrant na asawa o anak ay maaaring mag-file ng isang aplikasyon para pahabain ang nonimmigrant stay sa Form I-539 alinsunod sa mga tagubilin ng pormularyo. Ang extension ng CW-2 status ay maaaring hindi aprubahan hangga't hindi naaprubahan ang petisyon ng extension ng CW-1. Ang filing fee ay $300.

T. Paano makakakuha ng CW status?

A. Oras na naaprubahan na ang petisyon ng I-129CW, ang benipisyaryo at ang mga kwalipikadong kapamilya ay maaaring mag-aplay para sa CW-1 o CW-2 status. At dahil ang foreign nationals na nasa CNMI ay hind nagbigay dati ng biometric na impormasyon sa Pederal na gobyerno, at dahil dito'y hindi isinagawa sa kanila ang mga kinakailangang security check, hihilingin sa kanila ang biometrics. Ang fee upang makuha ang biometrics ay $80. Maaaring i-waive ang fee kung maipapakita ng mga aplikante na hindi nila kayang bayaran ang kapwa Form I-129CW at ang fees sa biometrics.

Ang aliens na nasa ibang bansa ay kailangang mag-aplay para sa CW-1 o CW-2 visa sa isang konsulado ng Estados Unidos. Kapag ang mga aplikante ay nag-aplay abroad, hindi hihilingin ng USCIS ang biometrics, gayunman, ang biometrics ay maaaring hilingin ng Department of State.

T. Alinig mga grupo ang maaaring mag-aplay para sa Transitional Worker Program?

A. Ang transitional worker program ay makukuha ng dalawang grupo ng foreign workers: (1) ng mga legal na nasa CNMI at (2) ng mga nasa ibang bansa.

T. Maaari bang magbiyahe sa labas ng CNMI ang mga taong may CW status?

A. Oras na nakuha na ang status, ang CW-1 o CW-2 nonimmigrant ay maaari nang umalis sa CNMI, pero dapat mayroon siyang angkop na visa upang makapasok muli. Kapag nakuha na ang CW-1 o CW-2 status sa CNMI (hindi sa Konsulado sa ibang bansa) ang nonimmigrant ay magkakaaroon ng legal status, pero hindi ito isang visa na balido para makapunta at makapasok sa CNMI. Kapag lumabas ng CNMI ang CW-1 o CW-2 nonimmigrants, kailangan silang kumuha ng visa mula sa isang embahada o konsulado ng Estados Unidos upang makabalik sa CNMI, maliban kung may mga alternatibo na ispesipikong inaprubahan ng U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

T. Paano ba kumuha ng visa para sa re-entry?

A. Ang isang tao na nakakuha ng CW-1 o CW-2 status sa CNMI (hindi sa Konsulado sa ibang bansa) na kailangang lumabas ng CNMI para sa anumang dahilan ay kailangang kumuha ng visa mula sa State Department upang makapasok muli sa CNMI. Ito'y karaniwang ginagawa sa embahada ng Estados Unidos o sa isang Konsulado ng US gamit ang isang sistema ng

See Q&A on Next Page

LABOR FRONT

More on 'umbrella permits'

By FERDIE PONCE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Q: The Department of Labor uses papers to print the "umbrella permits." Are these permits protected against tampering?

A: According to Labor officials, they protect the "umbrella permits" against fraud with a coding system so that forms could not be duplicated without detection. The code, Labor and Immigration Identification System number, birth date, and name would have to match in order for the permit to be genuine.Labor's automation system allows enforcement authorities a quick way to verify authenticity. Labor warned that anyone who has a counterfeited permit in his or her possession will lose his or her status immediately.

■ ■ ■

Q: Who should hold the "umbrella permits"?

A: An alien worker should hold his or her "umbrella permit." Labor says the worker will take this permit with him or her wherever he or she is employed. Labor says that this permit is an authorization to work in the CNMI, so long as Labor's requirements are complied with.

■ ■ ■

Q: What does Labor initiate revocation process of the two-year "umbrella permits"?

A: Labor says it will use its existing processes under its existing regulations to determine if and when a two-year "umbrella permit" should be revoked. As is the case now, on the anniversary date of the worker's entry to the CNMI or contract, a new or replacement contract must be in place, a bond must be submitted, a health certificate must be updated, and a fee is paid.

According to Labor, if any of those things did not happen, the two-year "umbrella permit" will be revoked unless the worker had registered to transfer and was in the transfer system.

■ ■ ■

Q: What will happen to the "umbrella permits" if Gov. Benigno R. Fitial wins his lawsuit against federalization.

A: Labor officials say they will follow the "umbrella permit" program regardless of the outcome of the lawsuit. If the administration wins, Labor would honor the two-year permits. If the federal government wins, they are required to honor the two-year permits.

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U.S. & CNMI IMMIGRATION LAW

Bruce L. Mailman & Maya B. Kara

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(670) 233-0081

Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC
Corner of Beach Road and Cpl. Derence Jack Rd.,
Garapan, Saipan

***BRUCE L. MAILMAN** is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and has provided immigration services in the CNMI since 1989*

***MAYA B. KARA** is a former CNMI Acting Attorney General, Chief Legislative Counsel, Governor's and Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel and DOL Hearing Officer*

Q&A

From Page 13

pag-appointment doon sa lugar na iyon. Halimbawa, kung ang isang taong may CW-1 status ay nagplaplanong bumisita sa pamilya sa Pilipinas, kailangan siya mag-appointment sa Embahada ng Estados Unidos sa Manila upang kumuha ng CW visa habang siya ay nasa Pilipinas. Kailangan siya mag-biyahe nang may mga dokumento na maipapakita niya sa State Department sa panahon ng kanilang interview at dapat handa siyang maghintay nang ilang araw hanggang ma-isyu ang visa. Ang bawat Embahada at Konsulado ng U.S. ay may naiibang sistema ng pag-appointment. Para sa karagdagang impormasyon tungkol sa Embahada o Konsulado ng U.S., na maaaring kailangan ninyong puntahan, dapat kayo magpunta sa: http://www.usembassy.gov/. Ang paghihintay sa visa para sa bawat Konsulado sa ibang bansa ay nakalista sa: http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/tempvisitors_wait.php.

T. Maaari bang magbiyahe sa ibang lugar sa Estados Unidos ang mga taong may CW status?

A. Hindi. Ang CW visa classification ay valid lamang sa CNMI at hindi nagpapahintulot na magbiyahe sa anumang ibang bahagi ng Estados Unidos, kabilang ang Guam. Gayunman, kung ang isang tao na may CW status ay kwalipikado para iba pang uri ng nonimmigrant o immigrant visa, o visa waiver program, maaari siyang magbiyahe sa ibang lugar sa Estados Unidos at hindi ito mahahadlangan ng CW status.

T. Magkano ang bayad sa aplikasyon para sa visa na ito?

A. Ang fee para sa Form I-129CW ay $320, ang parehong halaga na sinisingil para sa I-129. Bukod pa rito, ang Public Law 110-229 ay nag-uutos ng isang "CNMI education funding fee" na $150 para sa bawat benepisyaryo bawat taon, at ito'y hindi maaaring hindi bayaran. At sa kahulihan, may fee na $80 upang kunin ang biometrics (fingerprints at mga retrato) at magsagawa ng mga kinakailangang background checks. Ang aplikante o ang tagapag-empleyo ang magbabayad para dito.

T. Mayroon bang mga fee waiver?

A. Sa karaniwan ay walang fee waiver sa mga kasong may kinalaman sa trabaho. Gayunman, dahil sa natatanging sitwasyon sa CNMI, ang I-129CW fee ay maaari i-waive o ipawalang-bisâ sa mga 'di-karaniwang sitwasyon kung saan maipapakita ng isang tagapag-empleyo na hindi niya kayang bayaran ang fee. Gayunman, dahil mahirap mapaniwalaan na ang isang tagapag-empleyo ay makapag-iisponsor ng isang alien para sa trabaho pero hindi niya kayang bayaran ang sinisingil para sa sponsorship na iyon, inaasahang lubos na kakaunti ang mga sitwasyon kung saan pahihintulutan ang fee waiver. May fee waiver para sa $80 biometrics fee kung maipapakita ng mga aplikante na hindi nila kayang bayaran ito.

T. Maaari bang magpetisyon ang isang tagapag-empleyo para sa higit sa isang worker sa parehong pormularyo?

A. Mayroong ilang mga restriksyon pero maaaring mag-file ang mga tagapag-empleyo para sa higit sa isang benepisyaro sa iisang I-129CW. Kung ang mga empleyado ay lahat nagtratrabaho para sa parehong kategoriya sa trabaho, para sa parehong panahon at sa parehong lugar, maaaring maglagay ang tagapag-empleyo ng gaano man karaming empleyado na gusto niya sa parehong petisyon. Hindi pinahihintulutan ang hindi maglagay ng pangalan ng benepisyaryo sa ilalim ng programang ito.

T. Kailan maaaring magsimulang mag-file ang mga tagapag-empleyo para sa workers?

A. Ipinag-uutos ng pansamantalang panghuling batas na ang mga tagapag-empleyo ay hindi maaaring mag-file para sa isang worker nang higit sa anim na buwan bago ng petsa kung kailan kailangan ng tagapag-empleyo ang serbisyong iyon ng empleyado (halimbawa, kung kailangan ng tagapag-empleyo ang mga serbisyo ng worker sa ika-1 ng Enero, kailangang isumite ng tagapag-empleyo ang petisyon para sa worker nang hindi mas maaga sa ika-1 ng Hulyo). Ipinapahayag ng batas na ang mga petisyong ito ay maaaring i-file bago ng Nobyembre 28, 2009, ngunit hindi ipagkakaloob ng USCIS ang CW-1 status bago ng petsang iyon.

T. Anong mga pormularyo ang kinakailangan para sa visa na ito?

A. Ang mga tagapag-empleyo ay maaaring mag-file ng isang petisyon para sa isang transitional worker sa USCIS gamit ang Form I-129CW, ang Petisyon para sa isang Nonimmigrant Worker sa CNMI. (Ang bagong pormularyo na ito ay minodelo sa kasalukuyang Form I-129.)

T. Paano isusumite ng tagapag-empleyo ang Form I-129CW Petition?

A. Ipapadala ito sa mail sa USCIS California Service Center. Mangyaring sundin ang mga tagubilin sa pormularyo.

T. Ano ang mangyayari sa CW-1 transitional workers sa katapusan ng panahon ng transisyon?

A. Ang panahon ng transisyon ay magtatapos sa Disyembre 31, 2014. Ang CW classification ay valid para sa buong panahon ng transisyon. Sa simula, ang CNMI-Only Transitional Worker status ay ipagkakaloob para sa 1 taon at ito ay maaaring i-renew sa buong panahon ng transisyon nang 1 taon bawat beses. Sa katapusan ng panahon ng transisyon, magtatapos ang Transitional Worker Program at ang transitional workers na may ganitong status ay dapat lumipat sa ibang nonimmigrant o immigrant status sa ilalim ng INA kung nais nilang manatili nang legal sa CNMI. Maaaring i-extend ng U.S. Department of Labor ang availability ng CNMI Transitional Worker Program nang lampas sa 2014, pero sa ngayon ay wala pang ginagawang desisyon tungkol sa anumang extension.

T. Anong mga kategoriya sa trabaho ang pahihintulutan?

A. Sa ilalim ng batas, kabilang sa Transitional Worker program ang KARAMIHAN ng mga kategoriya sa trabaho na ginagamit ngayon sa CNMI. Ang domestic household workers na tuwirang binigyan ng trabaho ng mga pribadong residente ay hindi magiging kwalipikado para sa CW-1 status. Gayunman, ang domestic workers na nagtratrabaho gamit ang ang isang "legal na negosyo" para sa placement sa mga indibidwal na sambahayan ay maaaring maging kwalipikado.

T. Aling mga tagapag-empleyo ng CNMI ang kwalipikadong magpetisyon para sa transitional workers?

A. Upang maging kwalipikado na magpetisyon para sa isang CW-1 nonimmigrant worker, ang isang tagapag-empleyo ay dapat: nasa isang legal na negosyo; dapat niyang isaalang-alang ang lahat ng workers sa Estados Unidos para sa mga posisyon na ibibigay sa CW-1 worker; dapat siyang mag-alok ng mga tadhana at mga kondisyon sa pagtratrabaho na alinsunod sa kalikasan ng trabaho, aktibidad, at industriya sa CNMI; at dapat siya sumunod sa lahat ng mga Pederal at Commonwealth na pangangailangan na may kinalaman sa trabaho, kabilang ang kawalan ng diskriminasyon, kaligtasan sa trabaho, at pinaka-kaunting suweldo. *Ang legal na negosyo* ay nangangahulugang isang tunay, aktibo, at pinalalakad na negosyo o pagnenegosyo na naglilikha ng mga serbisyo o mga bagay na ibebenta, o na isang panggobyerno, pangkawanggawa, o ibang nonprofit na entidad na talagang kinikilala. Ang negosyo ay dapat tumupad sa mga angkop na legal na pangangailangan para magnegosyo sa CNMI. Ang isang negosyo ay hindi ituturing na legal kapag ito'y tuwiran o 'di-tuwirang sangkot sa prostitusyon, sangkot sa trafficking sa mga menor-de-edad, o anumang ibang aktibidad na hindi legal sa ilalim ng Pederal o CNMI na batas.

T. Makakatanggap ba ang domestic workers ng CW-1 transitional worker status sa ilalim ng programang ito?

A. Oo, pero dapat silang isponsoran ng isang kwalipikadong tagapag-empleyo na nagnenegosyo sa CNMI tulad ng nakalarawan sa itaas.

T. Ano ang kailangang ipakita ng isang tagapag-empleyo ng CNMI sa kanyang petisyon para sa isang transitional worker?

A. Ang isang petisyon ay dapat may kasamang ebidensiya na nagpapakita na ang nagpepetisyon ay tumutupad sa kahulugan ng isang kwalipikadong tagapag-empleyo, at dapat nito mapatunayan na: walang available na kwalipikadong workers sa Estados Unidos para sa posisyon; ang tagapag-empleyo ay isang legal na negosyo tulad ng ipinakahulugan sa patakaran; ang worker ay may mga kwalipikasyon para sa posisyon (kabilang ang isang lisensya para sa trabaho, kung kinakailangan ito para sa trabaho); ang worker, kung siya'y nasa CNMI, ay legal na nasa CNMI; ang posisyon ay hindi pansamantala o seasonal na trabaho, at hindi makatwirang pinaniniwalaan ng nagpepetisyon na ito'y kwalipikado para sa anumang ibang klasipikasyon ng nonimmigrant worker; at ang posisiyon ay nasa listahan ng mga tinatanggap na kategoriya sa okupasyon.

T. Ilang transitional worker visas ang magiging available?

A. Para sa unang taon, ang mga limit sa bilang ng CW-1 status ay ibabatay sa sariling tantiya ng gobyerno ng CNMI sa bilang ng foreign workers, na 22,417. Iniaatas ng CNRA na bawasan ang dami bawat taon nang ito'y maging zero sa katapusan ng panahon ng transisyon. Sa gayon, pagkatapos ng unang taon, bababâ ang limit sa bilang, pero hindi pa natitiyak ang bilang na iyon.

T. Paano naman ang mga magulang at mga dependent? Makapagbibiyahe at makapagtratrabaho ba sila?

A. Pinahihintulutan ng batas ang mga asawa at menor-de-edad na mga anak ng isang tao na may CW-1 nonimmigrant status na pumasok sa CNMI bilang "accompanying" o "following" na makapiling ang pangunahing CW worker. Gagamitin ng patakaran ang kahulugan ng INA sa isang "bata" para sa layunin ng imigrasyon (maliban sa naturalization sa seksyon 101(b)), at idadagdag nito ang pangangailangan na ang bata ay dapat wala pang 18 taong gulang dahil binabanggit ng batas ang "mga menor-de-edad na mga anak" sa halip na "mga anak." Ang pagtratrabaho ay hindi awtorisado para sa mga asawa at mga anak ng CW-1 nonimmigrants.

T. Maaari bang baguhin ng CW-1 nonimmigrants ang status o maaari ba nilang i-adjust ang status?

A. Pinahihintulutan ng batas ang workers sa CW classification na lumipat sa ibang nonimmigrant status o baguhin ang status at gawing legal na permanent resident (kumuha ng green card) sa buong panahon ng transisyon kung sila'y kwalipikado. Pinahihintulutan ng patakaran ang isang alien na manatili o magpunta sa CNMI para sa pansamantalang panahon bilang isang CW-1 o CW-2 nonimmigrant at sabay na maghanap ng paraan upang maging isang legal na permanent resident ng Estados Unidos basta may balak ang alien na umalis nang kusang-loob sa katapusan ng kanyang awtorisadong nonimmigrant stay. Upang maging kwalipikado para sa CW-1 o CW-2 na klasipikasyon, hindi kinakailangang magmintina ang alien ng residence sa ibang bansa, at pinahihintulutan ang balak na maging dual immigrant at nonimmigrant.

T. Ako'y isang foreign worker sa CNMI. Maaari ba akong mag-aplay nang tuwiran para sa CW status nang walang pahintulot ng aking tagapag-empleyo?

A. Hindi, ang CW status ay batay sa pangangailangan ng isang tagapag-empleyo sa CNMI sa iyong mga serbisyo. Dapat kayong isponsoran ng inyong kasalukuyan o hinaharap na tagapag-empleyo sa pamamagitan ng pag-file ng isang Form I-129CW na petisyon. Pagkatapos aprubahan ang petisyon na iyon, kayo at ang inyong mga kwalipikadong kapamilya ay makakakuha ng CW status batay sa inaprubahang petisyon.

T. Kung nakakuha ako ng CW status, mauuwi ba ito sa legal na permanent resident ("green card") status sa U.S.?

A. Hindi tuwiran. Gayunman, bilang isang CW nonimmigrant, hindi kayo hinahadlangang kumuha ng legal na permanent residence kung kwalipikado kayo sa ibang paraan bilang isang family immigrant o employment-based immigrant.

T. Gaano katagal ang panahon para sa isang CW-1 status?

A. Isang taon. Ang isang legal na CW-1 nonimmigrant ay maaaring makakuha ng mga karagdagang extension na isang taon bawat beses kung nag-file ang kanyang tagapag-empleyo ng isang petisyon para hingin ang extension, ngunit ito'y mapapailalim sa limit.

T. Gaano katagal ang panahon para sa CW-2 status para sa asawa o menor-de-edad na anak?

A. Parehong panahon tulad ng sa pangunahing may hawak sa CW-1, pero ang katagalan ng panahon para sa CW-2 na anak ay magtatapos sa kanyang ika-18 na kaarawan, kung ito'y mauuna.

T. Makapagpapalit ba ng trabaho ang CW-1 worker sa CNMI habang pinananatili ang CW-1 status?

A. Oo, pero dapat mag-file ang bagong tagapag-empleyo ng Form I-129CW petition para sa bagong posisyon ng worker bago makapagtrabaho doon ang worker. Ang CW-1 transitional workers ay awtorisado lamang magtrabaho para sa tagapag-empleyo na nagpetisyon para sa kanila.

T. Ako'y isang CW nonimmigrant na nakakuha ng status sa CNMI. Kailangan kong mag-abroad at bumalik nang madalian dahil sa biglaang emergency sa pamilya. Magagawa ko ba ito nang walang visa?

A. Karaniwang inaasahan ang isang visa para makapasok muli sa CNMI ang isang CW nonimmigrant. Gayunman, sa mga emergency na sitwasyon, maaaring makapagbigay ang DHS ng paunang pahintulot na magbiyahe at bumalik nang walang visa. Mangyaring konsultahin ang opisina ng USCIS sa Saipan.

T. Bilang isang CW nonimmigrant, makakapagbiyahe ba ako papunta o pabalik sa CNMI gamit ang flight na may stopover sa Guam airport?

A. Hindi. Ang CW visas at status ay para lamang sa pagbiyahe papunta at upang manatili sa CNMI. Hindi kayo makakabiyahe sa anumang ibang lugar sa US, kahit na stopover lamang, nang walang ibang angkop na visa o dokumentasyon na nagpapahintulot sa ganoong pagpunta

T. Paano ba ako o ang aking kompanya makakapagsumite ng mga puna sa patakarang ito?

A. Hinihikayat ng USCIS ang puna ng publiko sa patakarang ito. Ang mga puna ay dapat matanggap bago dumating ng Nobyembre 27, 2009. Dapat nakasulat ang DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 sa mga puna at ito'y dapat isumite sa isa sa mga sumusunod na paraan:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.
- E-mail: rfs.regs@dhs.gov. Isama ang DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 sa subject line.
- Mail: Chief, Regulatory Products Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529-2210. Upang masigurado ang angkop na paghawak dito, mangyaring isulat ang DHS Docket No. USCIS-2008-0038 sa inyong sulat.

Source: USCIS

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Isabel Oli was tongue-tied for a while when she learned that her ex, Paolo Contis, had gotten his girlfriend, Liane Paz, pregnant. After recovering from the initial shock, she blurted out, "I'm happy for them. Walang halong kashowbizan yan."

Doesn't she secretly wish it was her? "I'm so over Pao," she quipped. "Time will come when we can really be friends again, We haven't talked since our breakup. I saw him from afar at a party. He was onstage; I don't think he knew I was around. Dyahe naman ako lumapit. Siyempre siya una dapat lumapit kasi siya yung lalaki."

So near, yet so far. How many heartbeats away are there from love to friendship?

■■■

My best guy friend, Cesar Montano, is mounting his first solo painting exhibit at Ayala Museum on Nov. 14. Check out his awesome masterpieces and buy one for your art collection. Most of the proceeds will go to Panaghoy Children Foundation's scholarship program. Among Buboy's pieces, my favorite is his painting of two Igorots that's displayed in his Italian resto, Bellisimo. Passion is in everything Buboy does, on cam and off.

■■■

I immensely enjoy hanging out with Maru Sotto. If only I could write all the juicy stuff we talk about! Maru's revelations about some of our colleagues jolt me. I thought that I was shock-proof, having grown up in the biz.

Let me share with you the bits and pieces of that conversation that were not off the record: Maru told me that his brother Vic Sotto and Vic's girlfriend Pia Guanio are vacationing in Africa. He also said he has remained friends with his ex, Ali Sotto, who's now based abroad with her diplomat husband. They keep in touch via Facebook.

I teased him. "In your younger years, who had the most women—Tito, Vic, Val or you?" He chuckled. "Believe it or not, ang mga Sotto, hindi babaero. Lapitin lang kami ng chicks! Pag nagpakita ng motibo ang girl, game na!" Who can resist the Sotto charm? Tito, Vic, Val and Maru don't seem to grow older; only handsomer.

■■■

Cristine Reyes is mighty proud of her horror movie with Richard Gutierrez, "Patient X."

Any horrific episode in her love life that she dreads remembering? "When an ex became paranoid because of jealousy," she says "He kept accusing me of things that were not true. It's scary when there's no trust in a relationship."

My sentiments, exactly. We should try to love a little less so we can trust a little more. I teased Cristine, "Are you referring to Dennis Trillo?" She laughed. "Friends na kami ni Dens. Di lang siya ang ex ko."

■■■

After mounting several relief missions for the victims of Tropical Storm "Ondoy" in Metro Manila, my cool amigo Dingdong Dantes and his YesPinoy Foundation (YPF), founded last Aug. 21, launched the "Oplan Restore Paaralan" campaign to help rehabilitate public schools damaged by Storm Ondoy and Typhoon "Pepeng."

"Restore" was launched at Dr. Sixto Antonio Elementary School in Pasig, which is still submerged in floodwaters. Dong and YPF volunteers reopened the school library, after repairing and repainting the bookshelves and filling them up with newly solicited books.

"We know there are hundreds, if not thousands, of other schools that need help," said Dong. "And we know we can only do so much. I just hope that other well-meaning groups will see the wisdom of our direction. We cannot let our learning institutions crumble—they are the bedrock of our country's future."

Dong was joined by YPF trustee Quirino Gov. Dax Cua and Marian Rivera (of course!). Donors included National Bookstore and St. Mary's Publishing Corp. The school officials were elated when YPF turned over the school library's first-ever computer, with Internet connection.

YPF also reinforced the elevated wooden footbridge leading to the campus. Its medical group, led by Dr. Rosemarie Tagapan, lectured the teachers, parents and students on avoiding flood-related diseases.

When Lav met Guy

By BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Talk of this film uniting two superstars of Philippine cinema, Nora Aunor and Lav Diaz, is making the rounds in blogs.

Diaz confirmed this with Inquirer Entertainment, saying the movie, "Reclusion Perpetua," has been in the works for the past three years.

(Aunor is also set to shoot "Do Filipinos Cry in America?" next year, according to its director, Celso Ad. Castillo.)

Diaz finally met with Aunor recently in Santa Monica, California.

"I went to see Nora," Diaz explained, "to see how committed she was to the project. We talked at length about it."

Diaz liked what he saw and heard: "She's committed."

He calls it a "collective" effort: "Her fans are raising money. If we meet the target, we'll be shooting soon."

Meanwhile, Diaz is off to the Thessaloniki film fest in Greece, where he's a jury member and where his latest short, "Butterflies Have No Memories," will be featured in a retrospective on Pinoy indies.

Then, "Butterflies" and his Venice-winning feature, "Melancholia," will be screened in Warsaw.

Diaz received the Indie Spirit award in the just-concluded Cinemanila fest.

What was the meeting with Nora like?

It was cool. She was in jeans and rubber shoes, no makeup. The sun was shining so bright that day, but a cool breeze, like Baguio's, was hovering. We had a late lunch and a few beers. We realized we were in LA's gay district because we kept seeing men holding hands while strolling, and women lustily kissing. Nora joked, "Alam ko na ngayon kung saan pupunta (Now, I know where to go)."

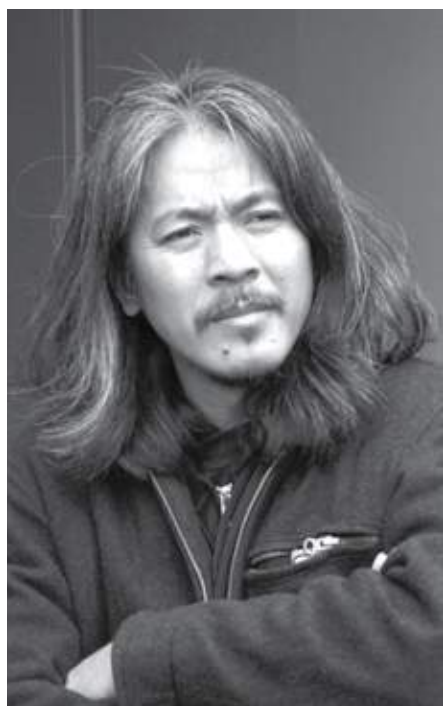
What is "Reclusion Perpetua" about?

Nora's character is looking for her husband, who disappeared in the US.

Why is it important to you to make a film with Nora now?

It is a cultural issue for me. It is dialectical. Nora Aunor is a Filipino icon, arguably our greatest actress. So, on the level of cultural discourse, she is very much a part of our struggle. I am not a fan ... though my mother is a fanatic. As a cultural worker, I acknowledge her importance.

Why is it important for today's audiences to see her act again?



Acclaimed Filipino director Lav Diaz recently met with superstar Nora Aunor in Santa Monica, California.

Any respectable Nora Aunor film can be used to educate our people. This is my responsibility, to use the medium to create a greater aesthetic and socio-cultural discourse for our people. The most potent modern medium now is cinema. Why not use an incredibly potent icon in the process?

I am using the term "use," or "paggamit" in Tagalog, in a very dialectical way. That answers the need for a Nora Aunor film. I am not doing a propaganda film, though, not a Nora rah-rah movie. The film's core shall remain aesthetic. This is still free cinema. It can run 40 hours.

Why is it described as a collective effort?

Everybody is working almost pro bono. Her responsible fans are doing patak-patak (passing the hat). We will work on people's donations. I am actually announcing it now: We need help! The objective is greater cinema, not profit. Should money come later, it would just be consequential.

How do you know Nora?

In Cotabato, as a kid, I experienced the phenomenon. It was crazy. My mom had some of her records at home.

The screenings of Nora Aunor movies were out of this world. You can actually see truckloads of people arriving in front of movie houses—people from the barrios. They'd be bringing kalderos and platos.

Every time Nora appeared onscreen, there would be screaming, wailing, shrieking. Some would faint. You couldn't breathe or move. It wasn't just standing room; it was bumper-to-bumper, sweat-to-sweat, laway-to-laway, bahala na kung matay (spit-to-spit, who cares if we die).

What are your favorite Nora Aunor movies?

I love Ishmael Bernal's "Himala." She's also great in Mario O'Hara's "Tatlong Taong Walang Diyos."

What's the latest on your other projects?

"Babae ng Hangin" is still evolving, yet again. I am following new threads to finish it. I submitted a more than three-hour rough cut to Venice but some problems ensued, so I pulled it out. But I'm really thankful that it happened, as I now have a clearer view of how to finish the film in the aesthetic realm.

The Gregoria de Jesus project remains a work in progress. I tried to do some test and pre-production, but I just couldn't push it properly. The hardest part is finding the right Gregoria de Jesus.

I am also making this call to the brave ones: If you think you can be the great Oryang, please submit your résumé and tell us why. Marami pang karakter na puwede sa lahat (There are other characters for everyone else), if they know the story of the Philippine Revolution.

What's your take on the retro on Filipino films in the Thessaloniki fest in Greece?

It's good for RP cinema. They can't just dismiss us now.

What should Filipino filmmakers do to sustain this international interest?

Just keep working hard, but not so much because of vanity. Everyone wants to be a rock star ... but there's more to be done in the aesthetic domain. If we really want a revolution, we must work harder and dig deeper. The real revolution that can save our devastated culture is a battle to destroy ignorance and apathy. This issue is a cultural struggle. Let's examine our history as a people. Why is our culture so dysfunctional? Let's examine the past and present.

Just ask the obvious questions: How could we have allowed more than 300 years of Spanish rule ... almost 100 years of American imperialism ... 20 years of Marcos dictatorship ... nine years of Macapagal-Arroyo?

With the advent of digital technology, how has filmmaking changed for Filipinos in the last five years?

The last five years have been a watershed. It created greater dynamism on the part of practitioners. Emancipation of the process was delivered by the digital age. We've finally destroyed feudalism in cinema. That alone is a huge leap. Greater freedom could hopefully lead to more visionary works. But let us be careful and cautious, because with greater freedom comes greater responsibility.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

'Himala' in Virginia: Nora Aunor was on time

MANILA, Philippines—The Movie Workers' Welfare Foundation, Inc. recently screened Ishmael Bernal's 1982 film "Himala" in Metro Washington DC and in Carson City, Los Angeles.

Mowelfund head Boots Anson-Roa said the movie was picked as a fundraiser for showing to Fil-Am communities, because it was earlier voted as CNN's Best Asia-Pacific Film of All Time.

Lead star Nora Aunor attended the Virginia screenings. Roa said the actress' drawing power proved undiminished. "And she was professionalism personified," related Roa. "She traveled to the venues on her own, showed up on time, and even helped in the kitchen." ***(Bayani San Diego Jr./PDI)***

Stars make sure they will be heard

MANILA, Philippines—Kapamilya stars turned up Wednesday for a special voter registration mounted by the network and the Commission on Elections.

Rayver Cruz, Rodjun Cruz, Cass Ponti, Princess Ryan, Josef Elizalde, Cris Pastor, Pokwang, Valerie Concepcion, Erik Santos, Mark Bautista, Angelica Panganiban, Shaina Magdayao, Mariel Rodriguez, Nikki Gil, Enchong Dee, Kim Chiu and Diether Ocampo appealed to the public to do the same.

"Now, more than ever, we have to make a stand. No one else will do this for us," said Gil, a first-time voter in 2010.

Another first-timer, Enchong Dee, added, "When you vote, make sure your choices will help the country."

The special registration was held at the ABS-CBN main office in Quezon City. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Maharlika – Opinyon

Estrada's world of make-believe

Karl Marx said, "History repeats itself, first as tragedy, second as farce."

Last Wednesday, Joseph Estrada tried to repeat history when he declared he was running for president for the second time. He said his bid was "the last performance of my life."

When he first ran for president, Estrada presented himself as the champion of the masses. To give his inauguration historical symbolism, he took his oath at Barasoain Church in Malolos, on June 30, 1998, apparently unaware that the choice of Barasoain played out the ironic contradiction between his claim as a man of the masses and the venue.

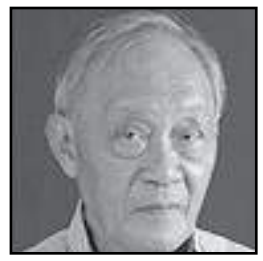
The first revolutionary Republic was inaugurated in Barasoain in 1898. The Malolos Republic was a creature of the elite-led revolution, made up of the educated Filipino upper class and middle-class principalia of the late 19th century.

It was the elite that packed the church during Estrada's inauguration. The church was too small to hold the audience, and Estrada appeared uncomfortable in the congested space and most probably in the midst of the non-masa assembly. He delivered his speech at the Independence Grandstand in Luneta.

Nonetheless, Estrada perorated in his inaugural speech, apparently unaware, of the hollowness of his soaring rhetoric. "The common people have waited long enough for their day, to come. That day is here," Estrada said, as though he was reciting a scripted line in one of his movies, depicting him as the hero of the underdog and underprivileged of Philippine society. He said that the "new day of the Filipino masses" had arrived and that one of their own was finally leading them.

When he took office with a strong populist accent, the Philippines was struggling to recover from the 1997 Asian financial meltdown, and emerging from the crisis less damaged than other countries in Asia. There were high expectations among the masses, the majority of the people, that the president would distribute more equitably the national wealth and lift the poor from their poverty.

Also in his inaugural, Estrada pledged to eradicate corruption, warning that his friends and relatives would not be given special favors in public transactions, and it would be futile to test his resolve.



Analysis

By AMANDO DORONILA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Two years later, Estrada plunged into a corruption scandal, involving pay-offs from proceeds of illegal jueteng. The scandal triggered the impeachment of Estrada in October 2000. By January 2001, Estrada was removed from office by People Power sparked by the suppression by the Senate, acting as the impeachment tribunal, of evidence on Estrada's bank transactions.

Filipinos were astonished by the swiftness of Estrada's fall. Evidence produced at the impeachment trial served as the basis of criminal prosecution which led to his conviction on charges of plunder in 2007 and imprisonment. He was quickly pardoned by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Estrada makes his second bid for the presidency against the judicially documented corruption of his short-lived presidency. His first presidency is now public record, known to most Filipinos, and the record undisputedly defines him as damaged goods. He is repackaging himself with a presentation of programs and policies without changing the wrapping paper that he is still the man of the masses. He is asking for a second chance to do better without any basis for such expectations.

A few thousands of the bakya crowd that he likes to believe is his die-hard constituency came to attend his declaration of candidacy at Plaza Amado Hernandez in Moriones, Tondo. He delivered the same stale message he gave in June 1998. They cheered him although they knew he had failed them, and many of them could be poorer and more wretched today than they were in 1998.

"This is the last performance of my life and I will not fail you," Estrada told the cheering crowed. "I swear to run in the coming elections so I can again be of service to the masses as president of the Philippines."

If Estrada believes he can win election against the dismal record of his failed presidency, there is no iota of evidence to warrant such optimism. Opinion surveys so far put him among a batch of contenders struggling to catch up with the front runner, Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III who scored 60 percent among a field of less than 10 contenders in the September survey of the Social Weather Stations.

Estrada's old constituency, the urban poor, are hearing the same stale and unfulfilled message, and it is hard to believe that they will continue to be deluded and be misled again in this election.

Estrada certainly made good his promise that he would declare his candidacy if he failed to unite the opposition. Despite his efforts, the opposition has remained fractured, and those in the first and second wave of runners are opposition people. The opposition men—Aquino, Sen. Manuel Villar, Sen. Francis Escudero, Vice President Noli de Castro, Estrada, Sen. Dick Gordon—are battling to eliminate one another, and they are dividing the vote among themselves, but fortunately for them, the probable administration standard-bearer, Defense Secretary Gilbert Teodoro, is rating miserably in the surveys. Estrada is being marginalized, and he looks pathetic as he continues to hold tenaciously to the illusion that the masses have kept faith with him, and that his man-of-the-masses image is still potent for mobilizing popular support.

No doubt Estrada has charisma. But his last performance is fast turning into a farce. That farce was spun out of the world of make-believe that is the movies. Estrada has lived in that world for too long.

EDITORIAL

Turtle-paced relief

On Oct. 21, a blogger named "Ella" posted an entry chronicling her experience as a volunteer at the DSWD warehouse on Church Road, Pasay City. She photographed heaps of relief goods, many of them donations from foreign governments and organizations, and asked why so little seemed to have been done with the supplies. (The blogger never alleged outright theft or mishandling of relief goods, only frustration over how goods didn't seem to be moving out the door with any speed at all.)

The blogger also asked why imported goods seemed to have been set aside. After all, the last thing we need is a repeat of the Guinsaugon relief efforts, where officials cornered imported relief goods and sent expired domestic relief items to the victims.

Within two days the entry had been read, and passed on to others, by a growing number of people online, and had piqued the interest of the Philippine News in the United States and media here at home.

Social Welfare Secretary Esperanza Cabral responded with a statement saying the department was working "around the clock," and that while the DSWD's warehouses were, indeed, full, "we have distributed 500,000 food packs and 200,000 clothing packs as well as thousands of sacks of rice, blankets, beddings, and items of personal hygiene in the past almost 4 weeks."

Cabral says that what is taking place is a "calibrated release" of goods, and her response is worth reproducing at length: "Relief response is not just emergency assistance. There will come a time when we have to do recovery work and rehabilitation work and when that time comes there will not be many volunteers left. There will be large NGOs that we usually work with but mostly it will be the government that will provide relief to these people who are starting to recover and who need to be rehabilitated. We need to keep some resources for them because when that time comes, there will be no more donations coming in, some will be reserved."

And yet in her official statement, she pursued the line put forward by her secretary—blame it on a lack of volunteers: "Our goods are repacked by volunteers who are there because they want to help. But they are volunteers and report when they have time to help us. Sometimes there are two hundred of them and sometimes there are only a dozen."

There is something incongruous about the welfare secretary saying government will do the job, as it expects volunteers to peter out, only to then blame its inability to act in a swifter manner, on a lack of volunteers. Public opinion has been—deservedly, we believe—harsh on the DSWD precisely because while the private sector required volunteers to accomplish what is a temporary job, the DSWD has a continuing task and enormous resources at the command of the President. Or, she could have made a public appeal—and indeed did make one, but only after the blogger's entry started making the rounds.

© Philippine Daily Inquirer

Aguinaldo's 'bibinquera'

While historians are often in search of manuscripts and obscure printed works, I often concentrate on photographs of historical events and people because there is truth to the cliché that a picture is worth a thousand words.

There is a famous photograph of Emilio Aguinaldo taken in the caves of Biak-na-Bato in 1897 and showing him in military uniform, with a saber hanging from his belt. This has been reproduced many times over because it shows the young Aguinaldo in a very heroic pose. What people do not realize is that long before we had Photoshop, parts of the original photograph were edited out, but one of the soldiers can still be seen in the background staring at the photographer! Unfortunately, this foot soldier cannot be identified, but his bored countenance changes the whole context of Aguinaldo's portrait.

Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

After the Revolution, Aguinaldo retired to his home in Kawit, Cavite, and started adding to the original bahay-na-bato with a thatch roof, converting it into the iconic mansion we have today. The so-called "Independence Balcony" was not yet there on June 12, 1898, when the declaration of independence and our flag was waved from a window of the house.

Aside from structural improvements to his home that included a two-lane bowling alley and a swimming pool on the ground floor, Aguinaldo ornamented the house with wonderfully carved hardwood furniture. There is, however, one grand mahogany dining table that is missing from the home. In 1934 Aguinaldo had himself photographed seated alone at a table that could probably sit 20 people. Its one-piece, solid hardwood top was so shiny that Aguinaldo's reflection could be seen on the table. He autographed this photograph and sent it to US President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

We do not know if Roosevelt replied. We do not know what Roosevelt thought of the sitter or the table, but this is the type of clue that historians can follow and chase for a story.

Preserved in the National Library is a roomful of original documents on the Revolution that contain the details that make history engaging. For example, there is a notebook that contains a listing of Aguinaldo's expenses for the years 1897-1898. A typical entry reads:

"Talisay [Biak-na-bato?] 25 May 1897. For the sick $4; Placido Martinez, Juez ynstructor $1.40; Alms for the poor $4; Puto taken for breakfast by the soldiers $1.40; Wages for the soldiers of G. J. Ardebol $4; Tinting Dodong $2 [presumably 'Tinting' is slang or short-cut for Lieutenant or Teniente]; Col. Yntong $2 [probably Col. Agapito Bonzon who led the party that arrested the ill-fated Andres Bonifacio and is alleged to have raped Mrs. Bonifacio or Gregoria de Jesus, Lakambini of the Katipunan]; Food for President Aguinaldo $1; namatayan $3 [alms given to the relatives of the deceased]; Cigarettes $1; Rice $3; Rice of three cavans and 7 salops $8; Cigarettes for the soldiers $2; Lt. Medina $1."

When I first saw the expense account, I wondered why they reckoned amounts in US dollars—only to be told that we used pesos, actually Mexican silver coins whose monetary symbol was also "$" (for Mexican pesos).

From the above you can also conclude that the revolutionists received a salary or allowance. This dispels the impression that our forefathers all fought for freedom without pay. Soldiers were fed, received an allowance and were also supplied with cigarettes, a recurring expense all throughout. Cigarettes were bought every other day.

These expense accounts also reflect payment for debts like an entry for Dec. 2, 1897 that reads: "Pinamayad sa mga vale sa tindahan ni Aling Binay $45." Aguinaldo's government did not take goods from stores and people without paying.

Patriotism is good, but people do need cash. Like many Filipinos we have been taught about selfless people, like Melchora Aquino or Tandang Sora who opened her bodegas and fed the Katipuneros for free. Some goods and supplies were given as donations. Others were provided on credit hence the lista system that is still used in corner sari-sari stores today.

The other important detail from the above excerpt shows that Aguinaldo and his men had puto for breakfast! If you go through the entire notebook, a spending pattern emerges from the records. Money was spent for: medical supplies; oil for cleaning guns; a barber; labanderas; cargadores; and alms for the poor, the dispossessed and relatives of the dead or wounded. Naturally, you have daily allowances for the officers and men, but two items stand out: a budget for an arbolario and gratuities for female spies or informers entered as "gratificacion sa mga tictic na babaye." Aguinaldo's cook "Ninoy" was paid a regular salary. He was so close to the President that his wife could borrow from the coffers of the Revolution. One entry reads: "Ang inutang ni Damasa, asawa ng cosinero Ninoy $12."

Christmas and New Year's Day were celebrated even during the days of the Revolution. Expenses were recorded for a sastre [tailor] and "galletas, carmelo at iba pa na cailangan sa cosina ng Presidencia." On Christmas Day 1897, there was an entry that said: "$1.60 sa bibinquera ng Presidente na omoui.?

All these are trivial details in the grand narrative that is our history, but knowing that Aguinaldo smoked and had a personal bibinquera provides flesh and color to the bare bones of history.

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu.

Maharlika – Samu't Sari

PSS DONATION MONETH G. DEPOSA

Board of Education members and Public School System officials on Thursday turn over a $6,000 check donation to Gary Sword for the affected school children in American Samoa who were recently hit by tsunami.

ORAL HEALTH MONETH G. DEPOSA

Seventh Day Adventist dental hygienist Lori I. Serna teaches fourth grader Nelson Mendoza how to properly brush his teeth during a presentation in Oleai Elementary School classes.

BUILDUP IMPACT FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Lawyer Matthew Gagelin of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy's Joint Guam Program Office discusses the Guam military buildup and its effects to Guam and Micronesia during Wednesday's Pacific Judicial Council's Biennial Conference at the Fiesta Resort and Spa's Hibiscus Hall.

KAZAKHSTAN TOUR AGENTS MVA

Travel agents and accompanying TV crew from Kazakhstan enjoy a welcoming dinner hosted by Pacific Islands Club Saipan and the Marianas Visitors Authority on Saturday, Oct. 24. While in the Northern Mariana Islands they will visit Rota, Tinian and Saipan. Hailing from three cities in Kazakhstan, the 10 professionals represent the largest travel agencies in the country of 17 million people and 4.5 million annual outbound tourists. A filming crew from Khabar TV and CaspioNet Cable is producing a 15-minute show on the Northern Marianas, which will air four times to millions of viewers in Kazakhstan and across Europe. Asiana Airlines flies between Saipan and Kazakhstan twice weekly through Seoul.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Mitz "Flykick" Brel! Hope you have a wonderful day, may all your wishes come true and may the Lord bless you today and always! Greetings come out from your loving family and most especially Els, Harl ma Rob!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Tyller Josh Theodore Ngewakl! May the Lord continue to bless you today and always! Greetings coming out from mommy, grandpa, grandma and your brothers Tyrell and Tyreze.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 6th birthday to Henric Jared "Jeboy" B. Dela Rosa, who will be celebrating his special day on Nov. 1! God bless and we love you very much! From Mom, Dad, Jaron, Jaren and the rest of the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

We wanted to wish you a big, big gift for your birthday. So here we are with our biggest hug to say Happy Halloween and a happy 6th birthday to you, our dear son Frederic Dean Michael "Mac" Guintu. Love and kisses from Mommy Maricar and Daddy Dick Guintu.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to my wife Joana Arriola. Greetings from your husband Ed Jr.

YoungStyle

Could the White House be haunted?

By MOIRA E. MCLAUGHLIN
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—The White House has been home to U.S. presidents and first ladies since 1800, so maybe presidential ghost lore is only (super) natural. Unexplainable footsteps, knocks, slamming doors, barking dogs, or even just cold chills have led many people to believe ghosts roam the White House. Abraham Lincoln, who is said to have foreseen his own death, is reportedly the most frequent ghostly visitor. Some say he appears at times of national crisis, walking the halls or hanging around the Lincoln Bedroom, which served as his office during his presidency. During World War II, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill supposedly refused to stay in the Lincoln Bedroom after seeing the dead president one night.

Another good ghost story involves Abigail Adams, the first first lady to live in the White House. The White House wasn't finished when she moved in, so she used the still-under-construction East Room to dry her clean sheets. Her ghost is said to walk out of the East Room with her arms outstretched as if carrying laundry. Sightings are often accompanied by the smell of clean linens.

Laughter coming from the Rose Bedroom on the second floor may just be the ghost of the boisterous President Andrew Jackson. One former White House seamstress claimed she felt him lean over her while hemming a bedspread in his old bedroom.

But it's not just presidents and first ladies who appear. The ghost of Annie Surratt, whose mother was executed for involvement in Lincoln's death, has supposedly been seen knocking on the White House door, pleading to have her mother released. A British soldier who helped set the White House on fire in 1814 is also said to be seen, wielding a torch. One couple staying in a second-floor bedroom said the ghost tried to set fire to their bed.

Are such stories true? Or are they just fun? Who knows? But the White House is known as the people's house—and maybe the people include the people's ghosts.

WHITE HOUSE FACT

WASHINGTON—Lara, Dot, Dash, Rollo, Weejie, Checkers and Lucky are just some of the names of dogs who lived in the White House in years past. Could they be ghosts now? ***(The Washington Post)***

Scare yourself silly with these books

THE WASHINGTON POST

If Halloween doesn't offer you enough ghouls and monsters, these books will give you your fill. From left, "Skulduggery Pleasant: The Faceless Ones," by Derek Landy; "All the Lovely Bad Ones," by Mary Downing Hahn; "Half-Minute Horrors," by various authors; and "Billy Bones: The Road to Nevermore," by Christopher Lincoln.

By MARGARET WEBB PRESSLER
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

It's the scary season—and a great time to curl up with a creepy read. So if Halloween doesn't offer you enough ghouls and monsters, these books will give you your fill.

"The Banshee," by Eve Bunting, ages 4-8

This is great for reading aloud on a dark and creepy night. The ghostly illustrations are perfect to tell the story of Terry, a young Irish boy who is sure he hears the frightening wails of a banshee outside his house in the middle of a cold, moonlit night. Terry had heard stories about the banshee, which screams when there will be a death, but isn't it just a superstition? The only way to find out if what he hears is real is to go outside and look for himself.

"Half-Minute Horrors," by various authors, age 10 and older

Only have a minute to be scared? This is your book. Writing just a paragraph or a page, some of the best-loved kids' book authors each contributed a compact creepy tale to this collection. R.L. Stine turns the classic childhood fear about monsters in the closet inside out. Dean Lorey will change the way you feel about adorable puppies. A definite spook-fest.

"Billy Bones: The Road to Nevermore," by Christopher Lincoln, ages 8-12

Billy Bones jumped into the Halloween scene last year with "Tales From the Secrets Closet," and now he's back, ready for another adventure. Rambunctious Billy and his cousin Millicent set off to see the world outside of High Manners Manor on a sailing trip with ghost pirate Glass-Eyed Pete. But plans go awry, and the three end up in a race to save themselves from Afterlife danger. This sequel is full of spirits, ghouls and spooky fun, along with the author's charming small illustrations.

"Skulduggery Pleasant: The Faceless Ones," by Derek Landy, age 10 and older

The third book in the Skulduggery Pleasant series once again features Valkyrie Cain, now 14 and rapidly learning to use magic powers to fight off evil and solve crimes with her skeleton-partner Skulduggery Pleasant. Valkyrie is growing up and becoming a fighting force in her own right, and the result is somewhat more gruesome action in this book. But that fits the spooky season—if you can handle it!

"All the Lovely Bad Ones," by Mary Downing Hahn, ages 8-12

Sent to Grandmother's cozy Vermont inn after getting kicked out of summer camp, 12-year-old Travis and his younger sister Corey keep up the mischief by trying to frighten and trick the guests. But they soon figure out that the old house is haunted with a real ghost—a spiteful woman who hates children and has done more than a few horrible things to them in years past. The siblings have to figure out a way to get rid of the ghost they angered, but it's no easy task.

By HOWARD BENNETT
Special to The Washington Post

Bennett is a Washington pediatrician and author of health-related books for kids.

The history of Halloween

Since today is Halloween, I'm sure most of you have already picked out the costumes you plan to wear when you go trick-or-treating. I'm also sure your parents have stocked up on candy to satisfy the ghoulish creatures that come by for a tasty treat.

Although Halloween is one of the most popular holidays in the United States, it did not start out the way it is practiced today.

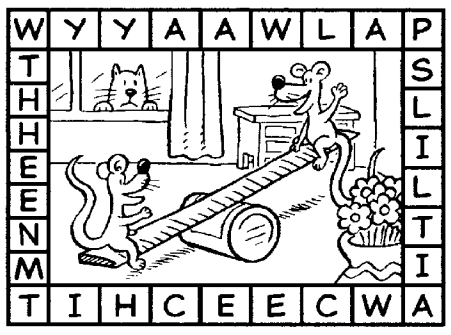
Halloween can be traced back more than 2,000 years to a Celtic festival known as Samhain (pronounced SAH-wen) that celebrated the end of the summer harvest season. The ancient Celts lived in Northern Europe, especially Ireland, Britain and France. (The "C" in Celtic is pronounced with a "K" sound.)

The Celts believed that the spirits of the dead roamed the towns and villages on the night of October 31. Because the Celts were superstitious, they feared that these spirits could create havoc by damaging crops, creating sickness and even taking over the bodies of the living. To ward off danger, the Celts lighted huge bonfires and dressed in animal hides to frighten away the evil spirits. Today people light up the night with creepy decorations and jack-o'-lanterns. And rather than parading around in animal hides, most kids prefer to wear spooky costumes.

The origin of trick-or-treating is not well understood. Some people think it began with a custom called souling, when the poor went to people's homes begging for soul cakes, round pieces of bread with currants. In return for the treats, the beggars would pray to help the recently deceased enter heaven.

So how did Samhain turn into Halloween? Samhain was a pagan (non-religious) celebration. As Christianity became dominant in Europe, the Catholic Church decided it didn't like people celebrating a non-Christian holiday. Around the year 800, the Church moved a spring holiday, All Saints' Day, to Nov. 1. "Hallows" is another word for "saints," so the night before All Saints' Day became known as All Hallows' Eve. From there, it was just a hop, skip and a jump of the tongue for All Hallows' Eve to become Halloween.

It's interesting to imagine what the Celts might think of how their tradition is being carried on by costumed kids carrying plastic pumpkins filled with candy corn and M&M's.



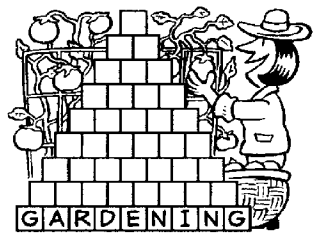
A TEETER-TOTTER TALE! Hidden in the above frame is a famous old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around it counterclockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with the "W" in the upper left corner: "When the cat is away the mice will play."

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

THE PYRAMID OF WORD POWER



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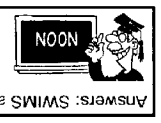
Illustrated by David Coulson

Can you harvest the right words from our "Garden of Knowledge"? Starting with the given word GARDENING at the bottom of our word pyramid, try dropping one letter at a time as you work your way up, so that the remaining letters, at each level, will spell out a new word. The following helpful hints are in ascending order, beginning with GARDENING.

1. Cultivating vegetables and flowers.
2. Provoking or making mad.
3. Almost there.
4. To get back again.
5. The staff of life.
6. To acquire.
7. To scold constantly.
8. Variant of ONE.
9. Blood type.

Answers: (from the bottom up): Gardening, angering, nearing, regain, grain, gain, nag, an, A.

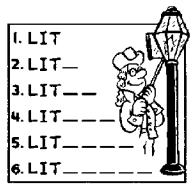
A TOPSY-TURVY TEST! Professor Flunkum wants you to find two more words in the English language that will read the same when turned upside down as they do when right-side up.



Answers: SWIMS and MOW.

TRY LIGHTING UP THESE WORDS! In this puzzle, all of the words get progressively longer, and they all start with LIT. Some hints are:

1. Turned on (given). 2. Two percent milk.
3. Very supple. 4. Type of test.
5. Exact meaning of. 6. Made a mess.



Answers: 1. Lit. 2. Lite. 3. Lithe. 4. Litmus. 5. Literal. 6. Litered.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was way back in the 19th century that American statesman Daniel Webster made the following sage observation: "The world is governed more by appearances than realities, so that it is fully as necessary to seem to know something as to know it."

■ Scary movies like "Jaws" notwithstanding, experts claim that you are 50 times more likely to be killed by a bee than you are to be killed by a shark.

■ All official American flags must be lowered and put away at night—all except one. The flag that was placed on the moon on July 20, 1969, by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin (for obvious reasons) remains flying at all times.

■ Although almost everyone today thinks of the dictator Napoleon as being unusually short, records show that he was actually 5 feet, 6 inches tall, which was the average height for a man in France at that time.

■ Those who study such things say that the coolest parts of the sun are approximately 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit, while the hottest spots can reach a whopping 15 *million* degrees.

■ The popular pub pastime of darts originated in the Middle Ages as a training game for archers.

■ Theodore Roosevelt was the first American president to drive an automobile, as well as the first to own one.

■ Although our lives are centered around (and sometimes seem completely ruled by) the seven-day week, not all cultures have demarcated dates that way. Ancient Egyptians once used a 10-day week, and ancient Romans followed a pattern of 8-day weeks.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress."—John Adams

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MAGIC MAZE ● CITIES OF LOVE

N L E R Q O M K I F D B Z X W
S L O V E L Y S T R E E T Y U
D S L V O N K S Q O N L J L K
L N E O E L R E H F D C A L R
Y L A L V V W O E W V T S O A
Q P I L E E I E C R N L K F P
I H F H E V P L N S C E C S S
E C A L E V O L L B E E Z E E
Y Y O J E V O L A E W V V V V
E L A D E V O L V C U S O O O
R Q P R Y E L L A V E V O L L

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Love Creek
Love Hill
Love Place
Love Valley
Lovedale
Lovejoy
Lovelace
Loveland
Lovely Street
Lover
Loves Corner
Loves Folly
Loves Park
Loveville
Newlove

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	x		+		22
+		–		÷	
	+		+		19
x		x		+	
	x		+		21
33		5		8	

2 3 4 5 6 6 7 8 9

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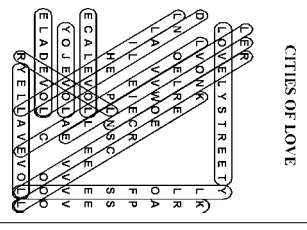
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

	8		5		33
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	+		x		x
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	÷		–		+
22	8	+	7	x	2

Myositis not easy to diagnose

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: We recently lost our Landseer Newfoundland to myositis. "Katie" was under a vet's care for many months, but only in the later stage of her illness was the condition recognized. The vet told us myositis can be caused by a virus or by parasites. Could you explain to me how it could have been caused by parasites, and if so, how we could have known?—Helga G., Fairpoint, N.Y.

DEAR HELGA: First, my condolences on your loss. It's never easy to lose a pet, and Katie went through a tough time.

Myositis is a condition in which a dog's muscles are damaged by inflammation. The most common form is masticatory myositis, in which the muscles involved in chewing are affected. Its cause can be hard to determine. Myositis can develop after a parasitic infection like toxoplasmosis, or as a secondary issue in pets with cancer. Pets with immune disorders may develop myositis. But often, no underlying cause is found.

The condition tends to set in suddenly. In masticatory myositis, affected dogs may exhibit swelling of the facial muscles and bulging eyes; they may run a fever and will show a reluctance to eat or whimper when chewing. In general myositis, dogs may exhibit a stiff-stilted gait and suffer muscle pain and weakness. They will tire easily.

If caught early, acute myositis can be treated using steroid therapy and supportive nutrition. If an underlying cause is found, like parasites, a wound or illness, the vet will treat that as well. Owners should keep a close eye on dogs that have been treated, in case symptoms return.

Unfortunately, for many dogs, myositis is a chronic condition. Steroid treatment is life-long, and each dog responds differently to the medication and its side effects.

■ ■ ■

Send your tips, questions and comments to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or e-mail them to pawscorner@hotmail.com.

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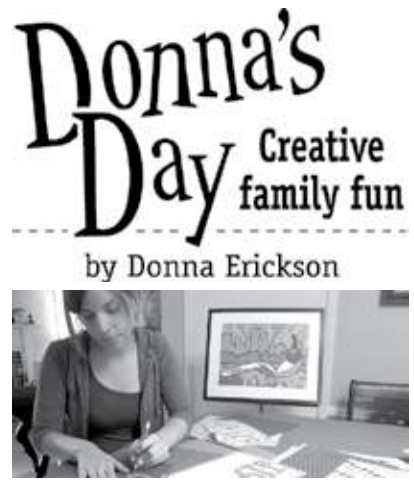
Turn colorful paper into eye-catching art



Say "cut and paste" to today's tech-savvy kids, and they'll think you're talking about rearranging and editing photos, images and documents on their computers. But to Northeastern University art student Helen Schroeder, "cutting and pasting" typically means spreading out good-old basic supplies of paper, scissors and glue on the kitchen table to create eye-catching handmade paper art.

Helen's ideas for her paper art evolved last summer after Saturday-morning bike rides around town. Pedaling by landmarks and skyscrapers, her destination was often the lively and colorful downtown farmer's market. As she wandered the stalls of flowers, vegetables and fruit, Helen wasn't just eyeing the bounty for a new ratatouille recipe or a zingy pasta sauce. She also was meticulously choosing eggplant, heirloom tomatoes and chard that would be the subject matter for a still-life picture she would make when she returned home. But instead of using paint and a paintbrush, she translated the look of the produce with cut out paper shapes, glued and layered one on top of the other.

She scanned her "artworks" into the computer, printed copies out on her color printer onto blank notecards, and voila! Instant holiday gifts wrapped in ribbon for the family.

It's not too early for you and your kids to get started making "not too messy" paper art for a creative and economical family holiday greeting card or for packets of notecard gifts.

Here's what you'll need:

■ A photo of the subject matter of your artwork, such as your house, a landmark in town or a birthday cake

■ A sheet of 8-1/2-by-11-inch patterned paper for the background of the picture, found in the scrapbooking section of craft stores

■ Assortment of solid-color paper

■ Pencil

■ Scissors and X-acto knife (for teen or adult use)

■ Glue stick

Here's the fun:

1. Using the photo as a guide, draw the shapes of the objects on the colored paper. For example, for a "From Our House to Your House" holiday card, draw the shapes of your house, door, windows, chimney, etc. Cut out the shape of a Christmas tree and small round ball shapes for decorations. Helen suggests using solid colors that coordinate with the colors of the background sheet.

2. Cut out shapes and glue on the background sheet to compose the picture.

3. Scan and print on paper or blank notecards on a color copier.

4. Sign and date the art print, or put your own hallmark on the back of the smaller notecards.

Resource: Helen's cards were such a hit that she now has the designs professionally printed. Take a look at her online store: www.lindenleaf.etsy.com.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning television series "Donna's Day" airs on public television nationwide. Visit www.donnasday.com to find out when it airs on your local PBS station and to sign up for Donna's e-newsletter.

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Distributed by King Features Synd.

Life & Style

Chef Koji joins Hyatt's Miyako Restaurant

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Newly arrived chef Koji Isa of Miyako poses with Hyatt Regency Saipan F&B director Ranjeet Rajebhosale, left, and executive chef Gabriel Colombo.

Only two weeks into the job, chef Koji Isa is already tickling the taste buds and exciting the palates of Miyako habitués.

Hyatt Regency Saipan F&B director Ranjeet Rajebhosale said the 32-year-old has been a breath of fresh air to the iconic Japanese restaurant, which has long been a favorite of tourists and locals alike.

Rajebhosale noted that chef Isa's miso soup is already the toast of the town and his new sushi and sashimi creations have immediately caught the fancy of Miyako loyalists.

Assistant Restaurant Manager Raj Rai added that the subtle changes chef Isa introduced to Miyako since taking over in the middle part of October has resulted in more covers.

In fact, Rajebhosale said that Miyako's customers have averaged between 65 and 75 the past few days, which is just about the capacity of the Japanese restaurant.

Credit goes to chef Isa's innovative fusion of Japanese cuisine to other culinary traditions. It is a skill and a talent the Kanagawa Prefecture native learned and honed while serving as a chef in China, Australia, and his native Japan.

Prior to his new assignment as head chef of Miyako, chef Isa served as sous chef at the Kaiseki and Teppanyaki Restaurant of Hyatt Regency Osaka. Before that he was the chef de cuisine at the Hyatt Regency Tianjin in China.

He also had stints at Egawa in Tokyo (sous chef), Orita's in Melbourne, Australia (chef de partie), Imajin's in Tokyo (line chef), and Karumaya's in Tokyo (commis chef).

Chef Isa said he is delighted to be given the opportunity to work and live in a tropical island paradise like Saipan. He said he has always been enchanted with the sea and working at Hyatt Regency Saipan fulfills a childhood dream.

He added that he already looks forward to serving Hyatt Regency Saipan's tourists and local guests with his unique Japanese cuisine, which he says, adopts new ideas and emphasizes on new flavors.

FOR RESERVATIONS
234-1234 Ext. 5813

Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabriel Colombo, meanwhile, said chef Isa's arrival is a boon not only to the hotel but also to its customers.

He said chef Isa boasts of a lot of experience, having worked under former Hyatt Regency corporate chef Orita-san for many years. Colombo added that chef Isa's stints in China and Australia also means that he has mastered the art of marrying cuisines.

For more information about Miyako or for reservations, call 234-1234 ext. 5813.

SDA launches 'Cards That Make You Smile' campaign

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School set out to make patients of the Commonwealth Health Center smile with their cards campaign "Cards That Make You Smile."

Over 100 inspirational cards were handmade by the students from toddlers' class through 10th grade as part of the campaign.

"It was amazing to see the students excited about making someone else feel better," said Angie Perez, public relations director.

On Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009, the school's Student Association visited the Commonwealth Health Center and handed out the cards to patients.

Here is what some of the SA officers had to say about their experience and thoughts on community outreach:

Why do you feel it is important to reach out to the community?

Joy Lacorte, SA vice president: "I feel it is important to reach out to those around you because it makes the people you are helping feel appreciated and blessed. Also it does a lot for yourself, because when you give you receive so much more than you would have expected."

Yunic Miraflor, SA secretary: "I strongly believe in the importance of taking time out of our busy schedule to help others and reach out to our community. It benefits not only the person that receives the help but as well the giver. By helping others, we think of their well-being and therefore, become less self-centered. We can learn so many lessons from caring for others such as patience, thoughtfulness, caring, and other values."

Ellie Eichenberger, SA chaplain: "In giving to the community we let them know that we care, and that is important."

What was your experience in the "Cards That Make You Smile" Campaign?

Joy: "I didn't know what to expect. But after seeing the faces of some of the patients and hearing what they have been through I felt like they needed those cards, and I knew it would help lift their spirits. This experience made me realize how much you can help others by just showing a little kindness."

Yunic: "The experience of handing out "Get Well Soon" cards was a blessing. Some patients were there with no family (senior citizens) and it made me realize that no matter how bad or low we may feel, there's always someone else that is going through a worse situation than we are. We should be thankful to the Lord that we are in good hands and pray for those who are not as fortunate as we are."

Ellie: "I enjoyed seeing people happy because of what we did. When we gave them the cards it brightened their faces and they seemed to be a little bit happier than before."

Perez praised the SDA students for their involvement, saying: "Our Student Association has been involved in organizing many community service outreach events this year. We are proud to see SA officers develop in their leadership and to see our students desire to live to give."

John T. Flores, the acting Deputy Secretary for Hospital Administration, said: "This is a noble thought and special treat to our patients at the hospital. Words of kindness and encouragement are always the best medicine for our patients at the hospital. The effort of the students and staff at SDA is greatly appreciated."

Lacorte shared a closing thought to reflect on: "The small pleasures of life mean the most. Things like making a card, giving your time to listen, or even just a warm welcome or a hug, makes this world a better place."

Jackson's 'This Is It' draws $20.1M worldwide

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The King of Pop is No. 1 again.

"Michael Jackson's This Is It" has landed on top of the domestic box office with $7.4 million in its first day and $12.7 million overseas.

That gives the film documenting Jackson's rehearsals for his planned concert tour a worldwide total of $20.1 million.

Distributor Sony said the $7.4 million domestic haul is the best ever for a movie on a Wednesday in October. "This Is It" was easily the No. 1 film domestically, coming in ahead of the $1.5 million gross for "Paranormal Activity," last weekend's top box-office earner.

Jackson died June 25, just before he was to begin a marathon run of comeback concerts in London. "This Is It" was built around more than 100 hours of behind-the-scenes footage shot between March and June as Jackson and his backup performers developed the numbers intended for his elaborate stage shows.

Sony said it expected strong results for the film this Friday and Sunday, though Saturday may leave a hole in the overall box office, falling on Halloween, when audiences typically are preoccupied with parties and trick-or-treating.

In a single day, "This Is It" climbed into the ranks of top-grossing music documentaries, just behind the $8.6 million domestic haul of "U2: Rattle and Hum."

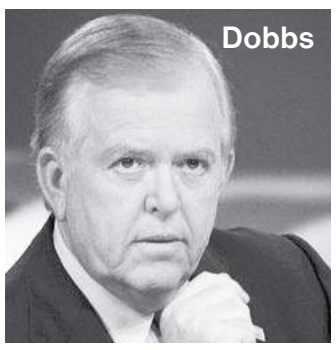
By this weekend, "This Is It" is likely to shoot past such films as "Madonna: Truth or Dare" ($15 million) and "Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience" ($19.2 million) to become the No. 2 draw all-time on the music-documentary chart.

The No. 1 music documentary is "Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert," which had a $31.1 million opening weekend last year and took in $65.3 million over its entire theatrical run.

Among the totals from other countries, "This Is It" brought in $1.9 million in Great Britain, $1.4 million France, $1.2 million in Japan and $1.1 million in Germany.

The film debuted in 99 countries Wednesday and expands to 10 more Thursday.

The film features Jackson doing all his biggest hits, including "Billie Jean," "Beat It," "Thriller," "Human Nature" and "Smooth Criminal."



Bullet hits Lou Dobbs' NJ home with wife nearby

WANTAGE, N.J. (AP)—Police in New Jersey are trying to determine who fired a bullet that struck CNN commentator Lou Dobbs' home as his wife stood nearby. State police Sgt. Stephen Jones says Dobbs' wife and driver were outside the home Oct. 5 when they heard the gunshot. Jones says the bullet didn't penetrate the siding and fell to the ground outside.

Dobbs mentioned the bullet earlier this week on CNN and his radio show.

Dobbs says he had been receiving threatening phone calls for weeks. On his radio show, he connected the gunshot to his advocacy for a crackdown on illegal immigration and to his opponents' rhetoric. The home is on a farm in Wantage, about 50 miles northwest of New York City.

It is small-game hunting season, but no hunters were seen in the area.

Sting: Obama best person to handle world's 'mess'

NEW YORK (AP)—Sting isn't a religious man, but he says President Barack Obama might be a divine answer to the world's problems.

"In many ways, he's sent from God," he joked in an interview, "because the world's a mess."

But Sting is serious in his belief that Obama is the best leader to navigate the world's problems. In an interview on Wednesday, the former Police frontman said that he spent some time with Obama and "found him to be very genuine, very present, clearly supersmart, and exactly what we need in the world."

"I can't think of anyone better qualified because of his background, his education, particularly in regard to Islam," he said.

Still, Sting acknowledged the president had a "difficult job" ahead of him. The British singer, who released the seasonal album "On A Winter's Night" this week, said he's fascinated by American politics, Obama, and also by Obama's opponents on the right.

"It's aggressive and violent and full of fear," he said of the backlash against Obama. "They don't want change, they want things to feel the same because they feel safe there."

Sting, 58, said he's hopeful that the world's problems can be dealt with, but is frustrated that "we seem to be living in a currency of medieval ideas."

"My hope is that we can start talking about real issues and not caring about whether God cares about your hemline or your color," he said. "We are here to evolve as one family, and we can't be separate anymore."

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Byron letters get nearly $460,000 at UK auction

LONDON (AP)—A British auction house says a set of 15 letters and other writings by the rakish Romantic poet Lord Byron have sold for 277,250 pounds (nearly $460,00). Sotheby's in London says that the letters, addressed to his close friend Francis Hodgson, detail the troubled poet's private life and many have never been published. The pair went to the University of Cambridge together and Byron writes to his friend telling him of his life, his opinions, his dog and his many infamous loves. In one letter from Portugal, Byron boasts of sharpening his knowledge of the country's obscenities. In another he details his affair with serving girl Susan Vaughan. Sotheby's said Thursday that the letters were bought by an anonymous bidder.

Agassi's publisher withholds e-edition of memoir

NEW YORK (AP)—If you're eager to read Andre Agassi's memoir, don't expect to download it any time soon. Agassi's "Open" will not be available as an e-book when the hardcover comes out, Nov. 9, and publisher Alfred A. Knopf has not set a date for a digital version. "We're not releasing an e-book at this time but may consider releasing one in the future," Knopf spokesman Paul Bogaards said Thursday. E-editions also have been withheld for Sarah Palin's "Going Rogue," Edward Kennedy's "True Compass" and Stephen King's "Under the Dome" as publishers worry that the growing e-market will take business from the more expensive hardcovers. In Agassi's book, No. 9 on the best-seller list of Amazon.com as of Thursday afternoon, the tennis great acknowledges using crystal meth in the 1990s and then lying to the Association of Tennis Professionals tour after failing a 1997 drug test.

Jon Gosselin's girlfriend claims he has 'mantrums'

NEW YORK (AP)—Jon Gosselin's post-Kate relationship isn't going too well—and that's according to his new girlfriend. Hailey Glassman tells the syndicated television magazine show "The Insider" that the one-time reality TV dad takes out his anger on her. She says he throws "mantrums." Adds the 22-year-old: "He's like Jekyll and Hyde. But I still love him." In a statement to the show, Gosselin says he regretted "any pain that my actions have caused her" and that he was committed to making things right with Glassman, his ex-wife and kids. Gosselin, who filed for divorce from wife Kate in June, was part of the TLC show "Jon & Kate Plus Eight," chronicling their struggles raising eight children. Glassman spoke to "The Insider" in a two-part interview airing Thursday and Friday.

Madonna promises light for Malawian village

MPHANDULA, Malawi (AP)—Madonna has promised electricity to a village in Malawi, the impoverished southern African country where she runs a charity organization and from which she has adopted two children. Speaking in Mphandula, some 50 kilometers (30 miles) from Malawi's capital, Lilongwe, the singer said Thursday: "I know you work in darkness. I will bring you electricity." Madonna's Raising Malawi charity already has donated $500,000 for a child care center in the village that feeds and educates 3,000 orphaned children. Madonna arrived in Malawi on Sunday accompanied by her four children. On Monday she broke ground for her $15-million Raising Malawi Academy for Girls. About 500,000 children in this nation of 12 million have lost a parent to AIDS.

Manager: Dennis Hopper has prostate cancer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dennis Hopper has been diagnosed with prostate cancer and is canceling all travel plans to focus on treatment, his manager said Thursday. The 73-year-old actor and artist is being treated through a "special program" at the University of Southern California, said Sam Maydew. Asked about Hopper's prognosis, Maydew said, "We're hoping for the best." He would not elaborate on the actor's condition. Hopper was forced to cancel his appearance at an exhibition of his artwork and photography at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne. Called "Dennis Hopper and the New Hollywood," the show celebrates "the work and life of an extraordinary filmmaker, artist and key figure in the evolution of Americas cultural scene from the 1950s to today." Hopper was hospitalized in New York earlier this month and treated for dehydration.

Nicolas Cage's father, August Coppola, dead at 75

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nicolas Cage's father, literature professor August Coppola, has died. He was 75. Coppola is the brother of filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola, and he taught literature and served as dean of creative arts at San Francisco State University. Cage spokeswoman Annett Wolf said he died Tuesday after a heart attack. Besides Cage, Coppola is survived by sons Christopher and Marc and five grandchildren.

Don't forget those batteries when 'falling back' tomorrow

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: As a fire officer, I have seen far too many families fall victim to accidental home fires. It is devastating to find out that a life could have been saved if someone had only taken that simple step of replacing a dead battery in a smoke alarm. Nearly 96 percent of American homes have at least one smoke alarm. But did you know that 19 percent of American homes lack a working smoke alarm because the batteries are missing or dead?

For 22 years, the International Association of Fire Chiefs and Energizer have been committed to changing this statistic through the "Change Your Clock Change Your Battery" campaign. This partnership encourages families to change the battery in their smoke alarms when they set their clocks back an hour on Nov. 1. This message also serves as a reminder to communities nationwide to change the batteries in their carbon monoxide detectors.

As winter approaches, more people will begin using gas appliances to heat their homes and may find themselves at risk of carbon monoxide poisoning, called the "silent killer" because this gas is colorless, odorless and tasteless.

Thank you, Abby, for helping us spread this lifesaving message to your readers.

JEFFREY D. JOHNSON, PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

DEAR JEFF: I'm glad to help, and I know my readers are grateful for your timely reminder. It may seem like a menial task, but safeguarding yourselves and your families is extremely important—so change those batteries this weekend!

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: For the last two years I have been going out with a guy I'll call "Ricky." My problem is I don't love him anymore. A few weeks ago I told him I no longer wanted to be with him, and he started crying. He scared me when he said his life was in my hands.

Abby, I want to end it. Ricky suffocates me. He's depressed because his mom works and doesn't have time for him. His dad doesn't live with them, so Ricky feels he has only me to talk to. He wants to marry me, and I don't want to lie and say I will. It disturbs me that he still wants to be together even though he knows I'm not happy with him. He believes that if he's happy, I will be, too. Please tell me what do.

TROUBLE IN SALINAS, CALIF.

DEAR TROUBLED: I'm sure the news that you wanted to break up was painful for Ricky to hear— hence the tears—but saying his life is in your hands was a form of emotional blackmail. For your sake, please don't fall for it.

Ricky appears to be needy and immature. Call his mother, tell her that you are ending the relationship and that he isn't taking it well. She's in a better position to see he gets emotional and psychological support than you are.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My best friend, "Heather," is trying to trick her husband into having another child. They already have one, but he doesn't think they can handle two.

They have been fighting about this, and it has created problems in their marriage. Heather confided to me recently that she is going to stop using birth control "just to see what will happen," and I'm pretty sure she's not going to tell her husband first.

I wish I didn't know. But now that I do, I'm not sure where my responsibilities lie. Should I tell him, or keep my mouth shut and act surprised when Heather gets pregnant?

KNOWS TOO MUCH IN BETHESDA

DEAR KNOWS TOO MUCH: This is your best friend. You should tell Heather that she's making a serious mistake. What she is doing is dishonest, underhanded, and could be the final straw that breaks her marriage apart. And yes, you should tip him off. If it isn't already too late, he may want to take precautions.

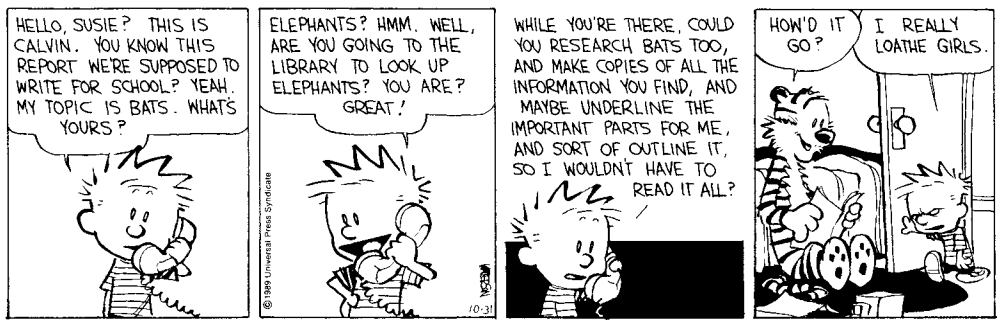
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HELLO, SUSIE? THIS IS CALVIN. YOU KNOW THIS REPORT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO WRITE FOR SCHOOL? YEAH. MY TOPIC IS BATS. WHAT'S YOURS?
ELEPHANTS? HMM. WELL, ARE YOU GOING TO THE LIBRARY TO LOOK UP ELEPHANTS? YOU ARE? GREAT!
© 1989 Universal Press Syndicate
10-31
WHILE YOU'RE THERE, COULD YOU RESEARCH BATS TOO, AND MAKE COPIES OF ALL THE INFORMATION YOU FIND, AND MAYBE UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANT PARTS FOR ME, AND SORT OF OUTLINE IT, SO I WOULDN'T HAVE TO READ IT ALL?
HOW'D IT GO?
I REALLY LOATHE GIRLS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

I JUST SPENT A WEEK WATCHING BAD HORROR MOVIES
SEVEN WHOLE DAYS, UTTERLY, TOTALLY, COMPLETELY WASTED
www.garfield.com
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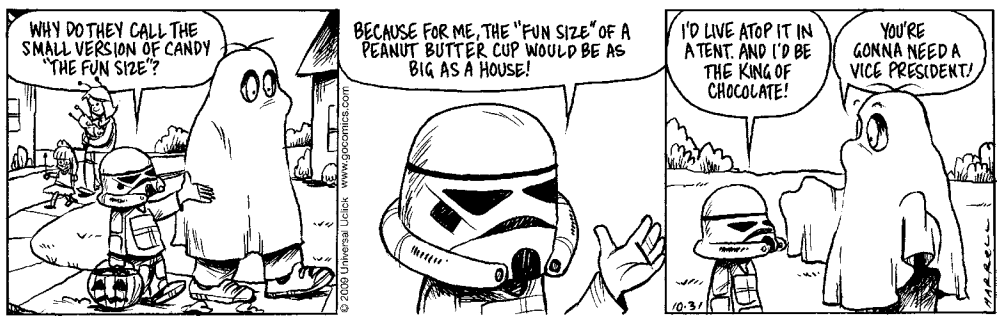
WHAT'S WITH THE TRIUMPHANT POSE?
IF I TOLD YOU, I'D JUST BE BRAGGING
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
JIM DAVIS 10-31

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHY DO THEY CALL THE SMALL VERSION OF CANDY "THE FUN SIZE"?
BECAUSE FOR ME, THE "FUN SIZE" OF A PEANUT BUTTER CUP WOULD BE AS BIG AS A HOUSE!
I'D LIVE ATOP IT IN A TENT. AND I'D BE THE KING OF CHOCOLATE!
YOU'RE GONNA NEED A VICE PRESIDENT!
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10-31

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

DIDN'T YOUR MOMS TEACH YOU NOT TO TAKE CANDY FROM STRANGERS?
DIDN'T YOUR MOM TEACH YOU NOT TO ANTAGONIZE A PACK OF SUGAR-STARVED 7-YEAR-OLDS WEARING DISGUISES?
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10-31
Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 One of the gang
4 Practice pugilism
8 Frost
12 William Tell's home
13 Bygone times
14 Ceaselessly
15 Witness
16 Pallet
17 "Wozzeck" composer
18 Halloween party sites?
21 "— the ramparts ..."
22 Chow down
23 Despondent atmosphere
26 Obese
27 Calendar pp.
30 Fish story
31 Peregrinate
32 Idiosyncrasy
33 Unruly group
34 "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" airer
35 Dental filling
36 Geologic period
37 Inseparable
38 Halloween decorations
45 Wrinkly citrus
46 Hodgepodge
47 A billion years
48 Compared to
49 Night light?
50 — generis
51 Crooned
52 Chromosome carrier
53 Stick with a kick

DOWN
1 Shove
2 Neighborhood
3 Stead
4 Method
5 Texas Hold 'Em, e.g.
6 Saharan
7 Carrot-top
8 Argue against
9 Currier's partner
10 Plain and simple
11 Work measures
19 Midday
20 Feedbag tidbit
23 Workout venue
24 Vientiane native
25 Scepter topper
26 E-mail alternative
27 Thou squared
28 — budget
29 Firmament
31 Agree
32 Patella locale
34 To and —
35 Chant
36 — out a living
37 Satiric weekly newspaper
38 Sticks out
39 Turkish official
40 Family
41 Out of the storm
42 Whatever remains
43 Subject, usually
44 Peevish fit

Solution time: 27 mins.

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A	M	E	N	■	A	G	A	■	Z	O	N	E	
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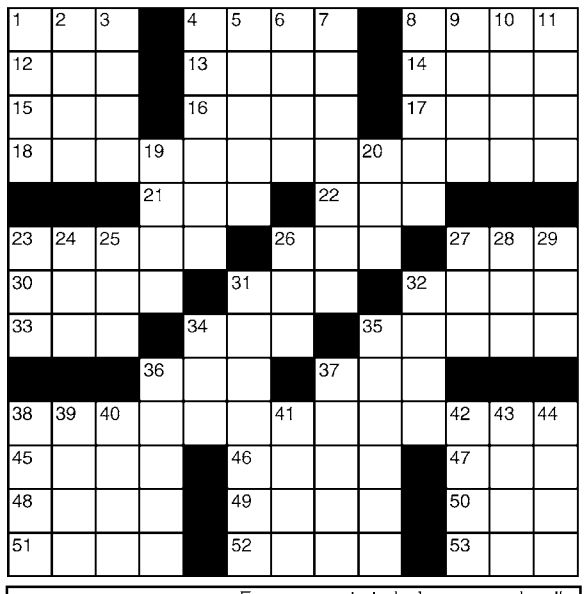
A	T	T	A	R	■	O	R	R	■	S	L	Y	

Yesterday's answer 10-31



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Adam Horovitz, 43; Peter Jackson, 48; Larry Mullen Jr., 48; Jane Pauley, 59

Happy Birthday: You will need to express your needs if you want them to be met this year. Speak sincerely from the heart. You will have a good eye and an interesting view of what's going on around you. Putting that to good use personally and professionally will mold your future and push you toward a destination you have dreamed about for some time. Your numbers are 6, 9, 17, 23, 29, 36, 41

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Affection will get you so much further ahead than criticism or complaining. Offer time and patience and suggestions that will be fun for everyone. Love is in the stars and can be spectacular if you go about it the right way. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't give in to someone's demands, especially if it means you have to give up something you really want to do. You can work out a solution if don't give ultimatums in return. Getting out of the house will make it easier to deal with the situation. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): A personal decision will change your current status and improve your life. Mix business with pleasure in order to make some successful changes in the near future. A limitation you've been faced with will be a blessing in disguise. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't jump to conclusions. Participation will lead to meeting new people and trying things you may end up enjoying. Focus on new acquaintances, not lovers, and you will avoid turmoil. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take pride in what you do. Taking on new tasks and getting involved in unfamiliar activities will get you thinking about all the possibilities ahead of you. Love is in the stars and a commitment can be made. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Budget wisely even if someone is trying to talk you into spending on entertainment. Look for opportunities that allow you to utilize what's being offered for free. Getting involved in planning an event will also help you bypass the expense. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You will be torn between what you can do and what you should do. Before you let anxiety set in, consider how you can actually take care of both your responsibilities and your own needs. Make plans with someone you love. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): By taking on something challenging, you will prove your ability and boost your confidence. Set your goals high. Your intense and deliberate approach will impress someone who can make a difference to your life. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't hesitate to take action if it will help you resolve issues at home. Financial gains can be made if you invest, sell something you no longer need or size down. A romantic encounter with someone from your past is possible. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Take precautions if you want things to develop satisfactorily. Someone you are emotionally involved with may not like your motives. Have an explanation prepared that will help you keep the peace. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Look back at your past experiences before you try to move forward with an emotional or financial situation. Ignoring what's going on will only make matters worse. If you are sincere, dedicated and upfront, you will eliminate any negativity and gain support. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Observation and responding sensibly will be all that's required to get things moving in a direction that suits you financially, contractually or legally. The choices you make will have a direct link to someone you want to get to know better. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: Your way of handling others allows you to call the shots and take ownership of what's unfolding. You are original, open-minded and gracious.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			8	3		4		
3		5		7		2		
	1		3		2			6
	9			5			3	
6			4		1		9	
		4		2		8		7
		9		1	6			

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/31

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	2	7	8	6	1	4	9	3
8	6	3	4	5	9	7	2	1
4	1	9	3	2	7	5	6	8
6	5	4	1	3	2	8	7	9
2	7	1	9	4	8	3	5	6
3	9	8	6	7	5	2	1	4
1	4	2	7	8	6	9	3	5
7	8	6	5	9	3	1	4	2
9	3	5	2	1	4	6	8	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/30

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CHATEAU PETRUS **Solution: 8 letters**

R	T	X	V	F	C	B	O	R	D	E	A	U	X	S
U	O	E	U	A	E	L	O	R	E	M	O	P	T	F
O	A	T	N	A	G	R	A	P	E	S	T	A	T	E
T	U	G	H	R	G	Y	M	I	B	A	V	S	F	E
A	I	A	I	S	E	R	M	E	R	L	O	T	R	B
L	L	N	E	N	C	B	A	N	N	I	A	C	A	E
T	A	R	I	T	G	H	A	M	L	T	O	N	N	N
P	C	V	T	N	A	U	I	C	H	R	E	I	C	R
A	O	O	A	A	D	L	G	L	K	T	W	D	A	U
U	S	W	N	H	B	M	P	I	D	S	P	G	S	O
S	T	V	E	C	Ⓒ	U	O	E	R	A	K	E	E	B
O	E	E	L	R	R	Ⓐ	O	U	S	O	R	N	D	I
N	L	A	B	E	L	E	Ⓡ	L	T	T	N	O	A	L
E	Y	L	I	M	A	F	T	Ⓓ	L	O	B	D	M	T
S	E	R	U	T	X	I	M	E	F	I	N	E	E	A

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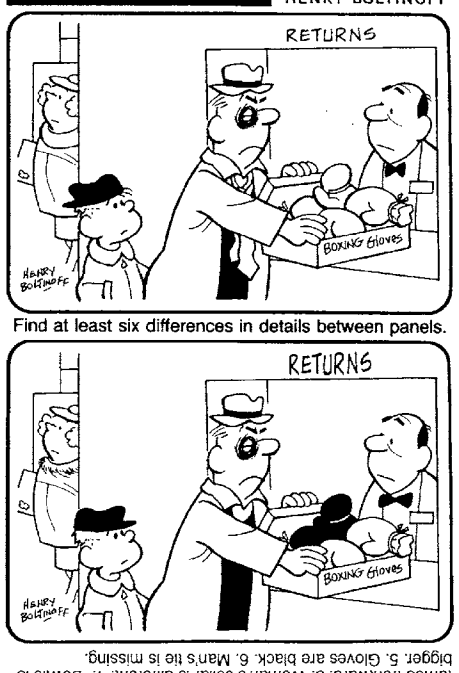
Acres, Aging, Arnaud, Aroma, Ausone, Beef, Blanc, Bold, Bordeaux, Cabernet, Card, Case, Clay, Concrete, Cork, Depth, Estate, Family, Fermented, Fine, Franc, Gironde, Grape, Label, Lacoste, Latour, Libourne, Lignac, Loubat, Margaux, Merchant, Merlot, Mixtures, Mouton, Plateau, Pomerol, Power, Rothschild, Soil, Tanks, Toast, Vats, Veal, Vineyard, Wine

Yesterday's Answer: Writer

Treasury 5 or 7 Send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 postage and handling each ($14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480 Order online at upuzzles.com.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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Differences: 1. "Returns" sign is different. 2. Boy's hat is turned frontward. 3. Woman's collar is different. 4. Bowtie is bigger. 5. Gloves are black. 6. Man's tie is missing.

Wishing Well®

4	6	4	6	2	7	3	5	3	5	4	6	3
B	I	U	N	D	A	S	C	E	O	S	C	E
2	6	5	7	5	7	2	5	3	6	5	7	5
O	R	N	D	S	A	F	I	K	E	D	Y	E
8	4	7	3	5	8	3	8	4	5	2	4	8
C	I	F	K	R	H	N	O	N	A	O	E	O
6	3	7	3	5	3	5	8	2	3	2	5	3
A	O	O	W	C	L	H	S	R	E	O	A	D
7	6	3	5	7	4	3	5	7	4	2	4	5
R	S	G	N	F	S	E	G	U	S	T	I	E
6	4	6	7	4	8	6	8	4	2	6	4	6
E	N	I	N	S	E	N	W	I	H	W	G	A
4	8	4	2	8	6	2	8	2	6	8	6	8
H	I	T	E	S	G	R	E	S	E	L	S	Y

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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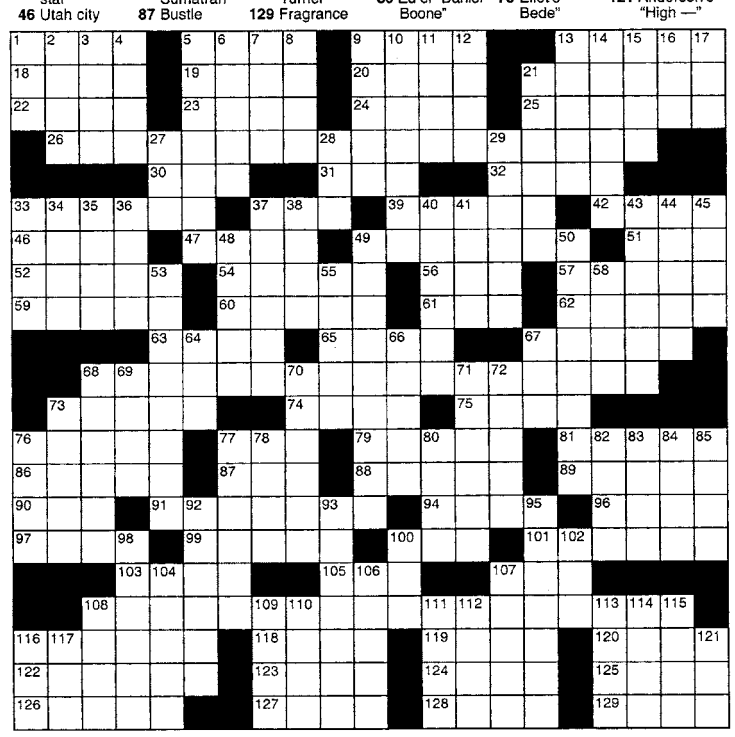
Super Crossword

SAILING LESSON

ACROSS
1 Wild child
5 Charges
9 SD! devices
13 Hooch
18 Well-ventilated
19 Autumn birthstone
20 Cheeseboard choice
21 Leno's predecessor
22 Pare down a paycheck
23 Painter Bonheur
24 "— That a Shame" ('55 hit)
25 Like some clocks
26 Start of a remark by Roy W. West
30 Ornamental vine
31 Wahine's wreath
32 Pants measurement
33 Entertain lavishly
37 Nunn or Neill
39 Service member?
42 "Black Narcissus" star
46 Utah city
47 "Phooey!"
49 Trench
51 Thieves' headquarters?
52 Fortifies with fleece
54 Close a gate
56 Actress Cassidy
57 Hardware item
59 Rottweiler's restraint
60 Hilo hello
61 Also
62 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
63 Kuwait's continent
65 Got older
67 Giraffe kin
68 Middle of remark
73 Author Gallant
74 Tara of "American Pie"
75 Top-notch
76 Clotted-cream county
77 Average
79 Brimming with gossip
81 Word with chard or Guard
86 Shaggy Sumatran
87 Bustle
88 Clear the slate
89 Lama land
90 Martini ingredient
91 Used an atomizer
94 Chair material
96 Hummus holder
97 Constellation component
99 Dud
100 Christie or Costello
101 Formal
103 Frank
105 "Evita" character
107 Lamb's dam
108 End of remark
116 Emphasize
118 Around the corner
119 "The Alienist" author Caleb
120 Fast gait
122 Loath
123 Canadian coin
124 Opinion page
125 Ballplayer Fuentes
126 Squander
127 Up-front money
128 Cole and Turner
129 Fragrance

DOWN
1 "— to Me" ('64 hit)
2 Run amok
3 Shoe part
4 Anklebiter
5 "— Amber" ('47 film)
6 Adhesive ingredient
7 — Haven, CT
8 Thick slice
9 Demean
10 Hailing from Hertfordshire
11 Make money
12 Peterson of "Providence"
13 The Beatles all had them
14 Pounds the podium
15 Sonja Henie's birthplace
16 Beastly place?
17 Chang's sib
21 Incisor's neighbor
27 Zilch
28 Shade tree
29 Took care of pressing business?
33 Bakery buy
34 Ohio county
35 Actress Rowlands
36 Ed of "Daniel Boone"
37 "— 17" ('53 film)
38 Concerning
40 Flaunt
41 — even keel
43 Ochs or Zukor
44 Attorney Melvin
45 Till
48 Delon or Lesage
49 Upset
50 Most auspicious
53 Woodworker's scraps
55 Abrade
58 Out of gas
64 Slangy sib
66 Duck down
67 "You Don't — Me" ('64 hit)
68 Cigar city
69 Revlon rival
70 Opera's Martina
71 The Bahamas' capital
72 Senior member
73 Deserve
76 "All — Go to Heaven" ('89 film)
77 One who no's best?
78 Eliot's "— Bede"
80 Brazos River city
82 Clean a counter
83 Egyptian bird
84 Theater collection
85 Corset part
92 Gratify
93 Captivate
95 Director Blake
98 Mugabe of Zimbabwe
100 Potok's "My Name Is Asher —"
102 Yank opponent
104 Oater extras
106 Writer Bret
107 Swamp sight
108 Aphrodite's boyfriend
109 Cuzco native
110 Witnessed
111 Computer image
112 Wine valley
113 Graham of football
114 Parched
115 "Rosanna" rockers
116 Shorten a slat
117 Dam org.
121 Anderson's "High —"



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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Lake Tahoe straddles the borders of which two U.S. states?
2. FOOD AND DRINK: What kind of dish is sometimes referred to as a "grunt" or a "slump"?
3. MEDICINE: What condition does a deficiency of iron cause?
4. MOVIES: What 1990 film won an Oscar and a Golden Globe for Best Picture?
5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the traditional birthstone for May?
6. MUSIC: How old was Felix Mendelssohn when he wrote the overture to "A Midsummer Night's Dream"?
7. ASTRONOMY: How many moons does the planet Mars have?
8. MYTHOLOGY: What is the Greek god of the sun called?
9. LANGUAGE: What is the only word in the English language that ends in the letters "mt"?
10. LITERATURE: What was the name of Dick and Jane's cat in the famous early readers?

Answers

1. California and Nevada
2. Baked fruit dessert with a biscuit topping
3. Anemia
4. "Dances with Wolves"
5. Emerald
6. 17
7. Two, Phobos and Deimos
8. Helios
9. Dreamt
10. Puff

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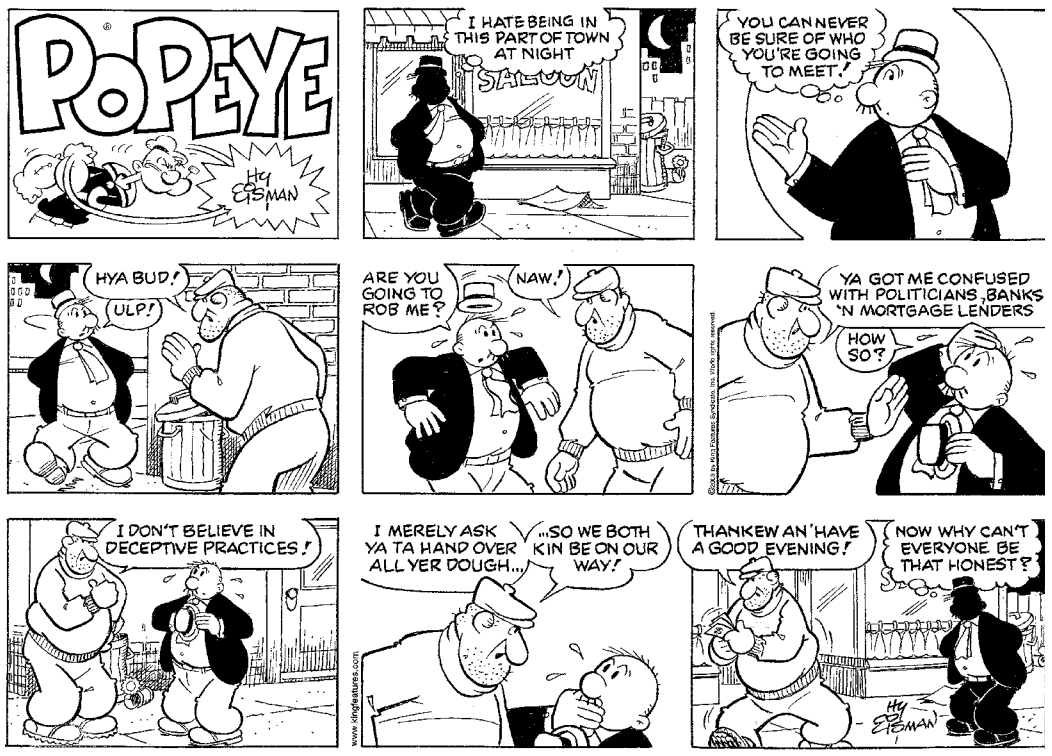
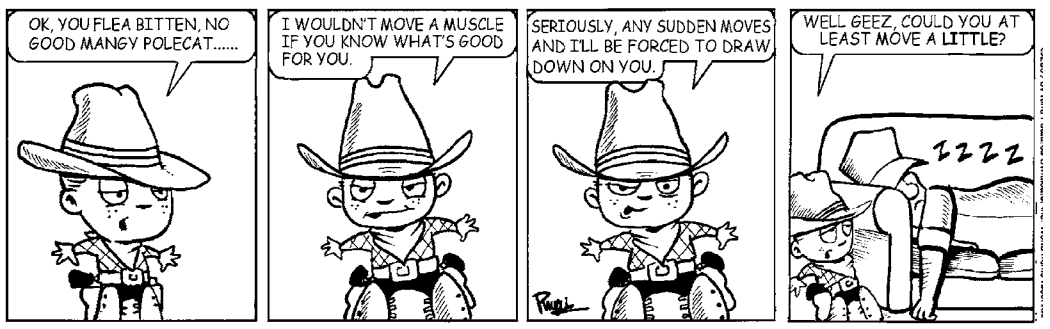
Saturday's Answers


POPEYE
HY EISMAN
I HATE BEING IN THIS PART OF TOWN AT NIGHT
SALOON
YOU CAN NEVER BE SURE OF WHO YOU'RE GOING TO MEET.
HYA BUD!
ULP!
ARE YOU GOING TO ROB ME?
NAW.!
YA GOT ME CONFUSED WITH POLITICIANS, BANKS 'N MORTGAGE LENDERS
HOW SO?
I DON'T BELIEVE IN DECEPTIVE PRACTICES!
I MERELY ASK YA TA HAND OVER ALL YER DOUGH...
...SO WE BOTH KIN BE ON OUR WAY!
THANKEW AN' HAVE A GOOD EVENING!
NOW WHY CAN'T EVERYONE BE THAT HONEST?
HY EISMAN
www.kingfeatures.com

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps


OK, YOU FLEA BITTEN, NO GOOD MANGY POLECAT.....
I WOULDN'T MOVE A MUSCLE IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU.
SERIOUSLY, ANY SUDDEN MOVES AND I'LL BE FORCED TO DRAW DOWN ON YOU.
WELL GEEZ, COULD YOU AT LEAST MOVE A LITTLE?
ZZZZ

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE I WAS A REAL CHICK MAGNET!
WHERE DID YOU FIND METAL CHICKS?
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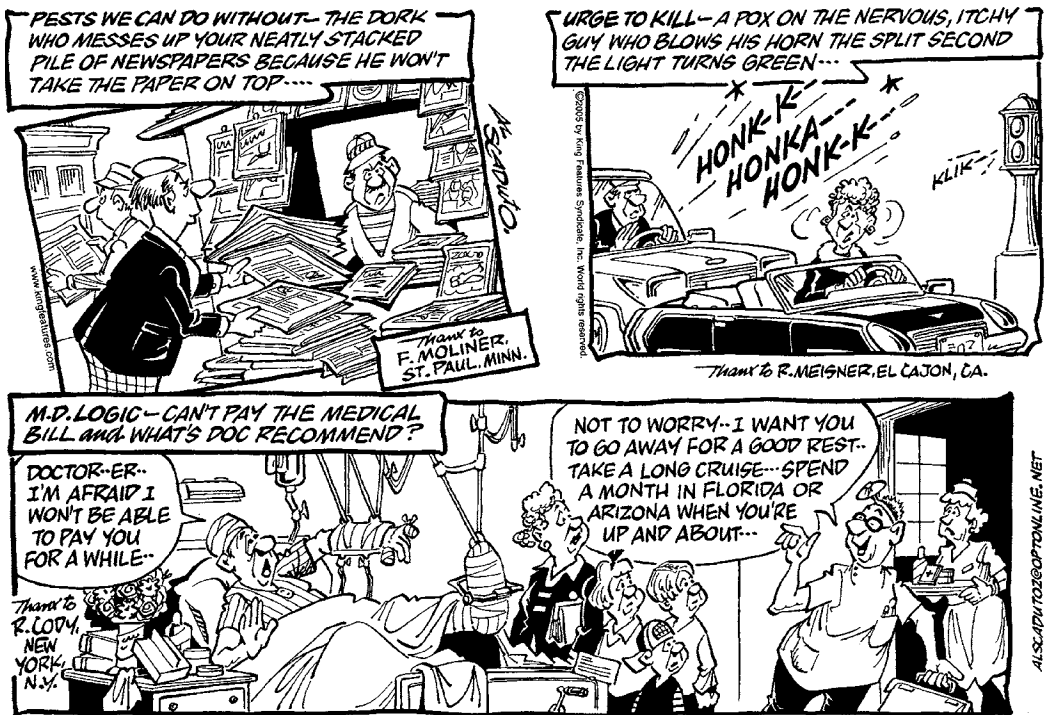
They'll Do It Every Time

by Al Scaduto


PESTS WE CAN DO WITHOUT— THE DORK WHO MESSES UP YOUR NEATLY STACKED PILE OF NEWSPAPERS BECAUSE HE WON'T TAKE THE PAPER ON TOP....
AL SCADUTO
Thank to F. MOLINER, ST. PAUL, MINN.
URGE TO KILL— A POX ON THE NERVOUS, ITCHY GUY WHO BLOWS HIS HORN THE SPLIT SECOND THE LIGHT TURNS GREEN...
HONK-K-- HONKA-- HONK-K--
KLIK--!
Thank to R. MEISNER, EL CAJON, CA.
M.D. LOGIC— CAN'T PAY THE MEDICAL BILL and WHAT'S DOC RECOMMEND?
DOCTOR--ER.. I'M AFRAID I WON'T BE ABLE TO PAY YOU FOR A WHILE..
NOT TO WORRY--I WANT YOU TO GO AWAY FOR A GOOD REST.. TAKE A LONG CRUISE--SPEND A MONTH IN FLORIDA OR ARIZONA WHEN YOU'RE UP AND ABOUT...
Thank to R. LOVY, NEW YORK, N.Y.
ALSCADUTO2@OPTONLINE.NET
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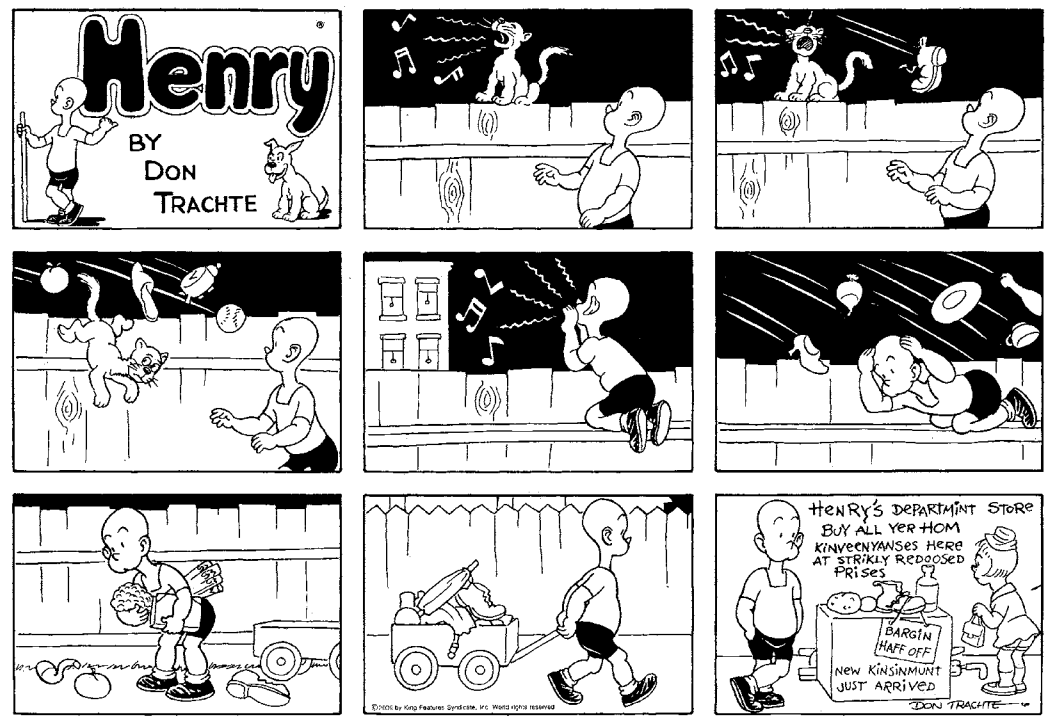
www.kingfeatures.com

Henry

BY DON TRACHTE


HENRY'S DEPARTMINT STORE
BUY ALL YER HOM KINVEENYANSES HERE AT STRIKLY REDOOSED PRISES
BARGIN HAFF OFF
NEW KINSINMUNT JUST ARRIVED
DON TRACHTE
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• 3-Liner with picture	**$45**
• 5-Liner with picture	**$55**

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Classified Ads

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- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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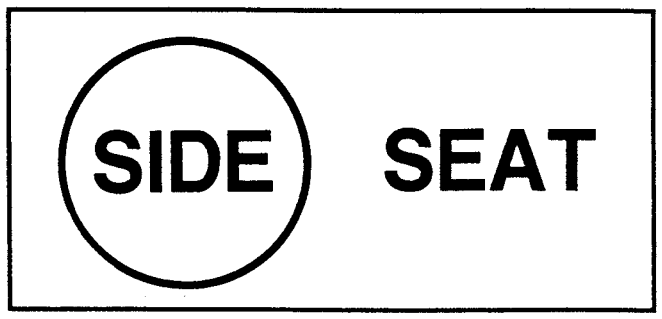
All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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235- NEWS

Teixeira, Matsui, Burnett help Yanks tie Series

NEW YORK (AP)—More than any slugger on either team, pitching has been the star of this World Series.

A.J. Burnett took a page from Cliff Lee's how-to manual and backed by a few key hits and a sharp pickoff throw, New York drew even with the Phillies at one game apiece.

Mark Teixeira and Hideki Matsui helped rally the Yankees with solo homers off familiar foe Pedro Martinez, and Burnett's biting curveball frustrated Philadelphia in a 3-1 victory Thursday night.

After his team lost 6-1 in Wednesday's opener, Burnett happened to hear Lee talk about confidence during an on-field interview. It left an impression.

"He talked about belief in his stuff, and all I told myself last night and today was the same thing," Burnett said. "I went out tonight with confidence, and just, you know, the game just rolled by."

Light-hitting Matt Stairs, in a 4-for-51 slide, put the Phillies on top with an RBI single in the second off the glove of third baseman Alex Rodriguez. Philadelphia never got another runner past second base against Burnett and Mariano Rivera, who combined on a six-hitter.

After a day off, Game 3 will be at Philadelphia on Saturday night.

"We're not depressed at all. We feel pretty good," Phillies shortstop Jimmy Rollins said.

New York had managed only an unearned run in the first 12 innings of the Series but came to life after a pickoff throw from backup catcher Jose Molina caught Jayson Werth off first in the fourth inning. The Yankees went on to their first Series win at their new $1.5 billion ballpark—and their first since taking a 2-1 lead against Florida in 2003.

"They're the best team we've played all year," New York's Derek Jeter said. "They're champs for a reason, and we need to play well if we're going to beat them."

In an 8-for-44 (.182) postseason slump, Teixeira tied the score when he led off the fourth by driving a high changeup into the Yankees bullpen in right field.

"I think the home run got the crowd back in it," Teixeira said. "It kind of put a little bit of a crack in their armor."

Matsui put New York ahead with two outs in the sixth, reaching down for a curveball below his knees and sending it a few rows into the seats in right.

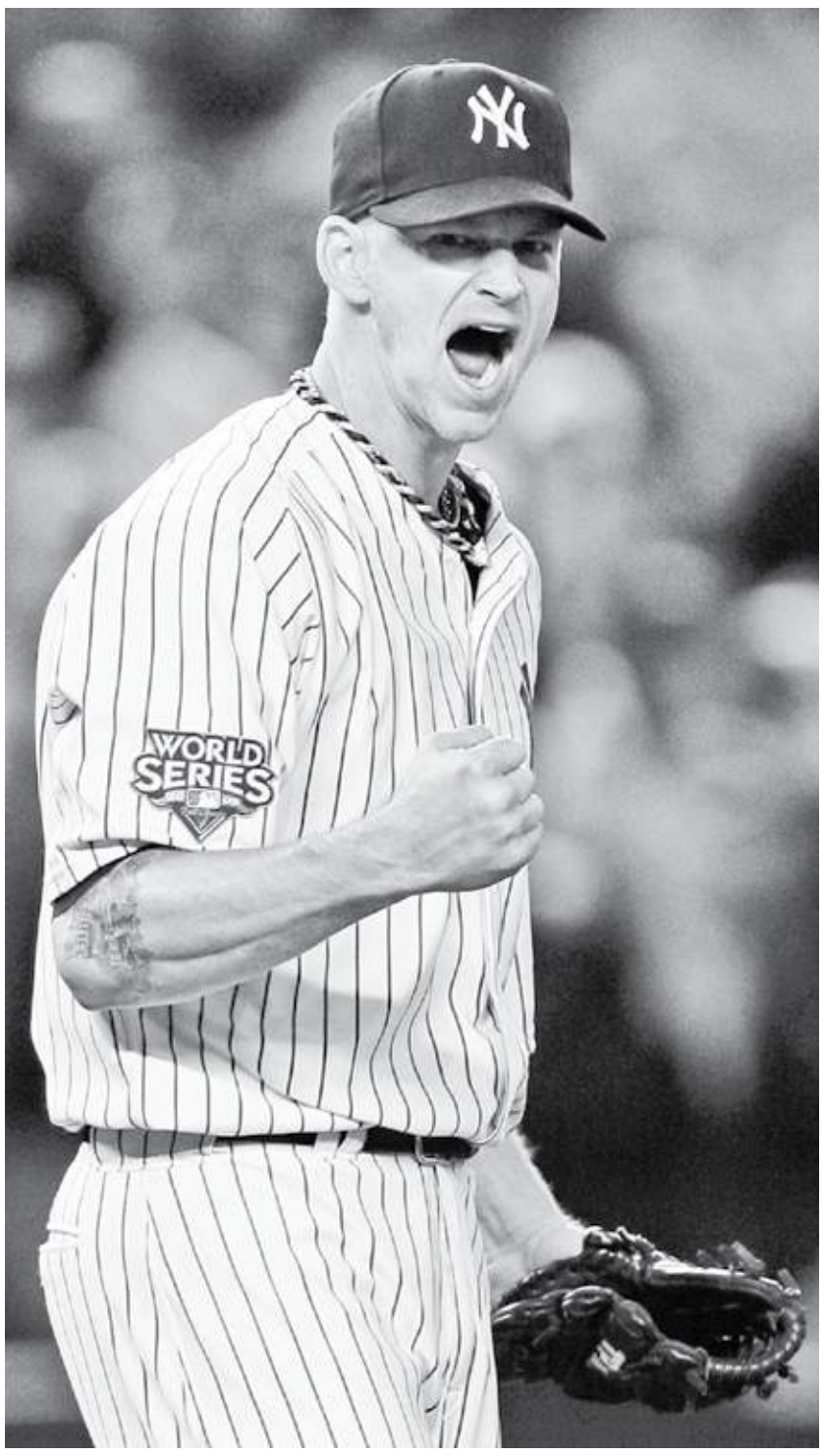
"I was able to make a good adjustment and put a good swing on it and fortunately it led to the result," he said through a translator.

Jorge Posada, on the bench because Molina has become Burnett's personal catcher, pinch hit in the seventh and added an RBI single off Chan Ho Park.

Burnett got his first win following three postseason no-decisions for the Yankees, allowing four hits in seven innings and retiring his last eight batters.

"He went to his bread-and-butter, that backdoor curveball. It's impossible to hit," Stairs said.

Burnett struck out nine and started his first 11 hitters with strikes, nine of them looking. Burnett kept his control, walking two, one intentional.



"A.J.'s breaking ball, it starts in the other batter's box," said Ryan Howard, who struck out three times against Burnett and four times in all. "That's a nasty pitch, nasty today."

Rivera got six outs for his 38th postseason save, his 10th in World Series play. After the Phillies put two on with one out in the eighth, Game 1 star Chase Utley grounded into an inning-ending double play.

When Rivera struck out Stairs with a runner on to end it, the Yankees sounded relieved.

"If we went in there 0-2, it would have been a tough road for us," Teixeira said.

Yankees manager Joe Girardi made several moves that paid off.

Molina made his fourth straight postseason start catching Burnett. He had eyed Werth taking a big lead.

"I saw the ball in the dirt," Molina said. "He's still far from the bag, so I just threw it, just whipped it there, see what happens. Maybe he shortens his lead up for the next time. We might get a ground-ball double play or something. But I got lucky."

Jerry Hairston Jr. made his first postseason start for the Yankees as the replacement for right fielder Nick Swisher, batting just .114 (4 for 35) in the postseason. He singled off Martinez in the seventh, and pinch-runner Brett Gardner went to third on Melky Cabrera's hit-and-run single before scoring on Posada's hit.

That helped make up for another off night by Alex Rodriguez. After carrying the Yankees in the playoffs against the Twins and Angels, he is 0 for 8 in his first Series appearance and struck out three times for the second straight night.

"The fact that I'm 0-fer in this Series and we're 1-1 makes me feel good," he said.

Pitching four days past his 38th birthday, Martinez fooled the Yankees with breaking pitches of 70-75 mph. He allowed three runs and six hits in six-plus innings, striking out eight and walking two.

There were a few muted chants of "Who's Your Daddy?" but nothing like the booming taunts that serenaded Martinez when he came to New York in his final weeks with Boston in 2004. That was after he famously said, "I just tip my hat and call the Yankees my daddy" following a loss at Fenway Park.

"I know they really want to root for me. It's just that I don't play for the Yankees, that's all," said Martinez, who hasn't been feeling well and was winded. "They love the fact that I compete. I'm a New Yorker, as well. If I was on the Yankees, I'd probably be like a king over here."

When the Series resumes, Cole Hamels starts Game 3 for the Phillies against Andy Pettitte in an all-lefty matchup. Both teams will be making the trip through New Jersey by train.

Twenty-eight of the 53 teams that won Game 2 to tie the Series went on to win the title—but just one of the last six, the 2002 Angels.

"Our club has been resilient all year," Girardi said. "The one thing that we've been able to do is we've went through some tough losses and we've seemed to bounce back. It was just business as usual for us today."

New York Yankees pitcher A.J. Burnett reacts after Philadelphia Phillies' Pedro Feliz grounded out to end the top of the seventh inning of Game 2 of the Major League Baseball World Series Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009, in New York.

AP

Martinez comes up short at Yankee Stadium

NEW YORK (AP)—Pedro Martinez slowly walked off the mound, listening to the taunts from the Bronx crowd. He looked skyward to acknowledge his late father, then smiled at the screaming hecklers.

Looking for one more big win in a spectacular career, Martinez couldn't send the Philadelphia Phillies home with a commanding 2-0 lead over the New York Yankees in the World Series.

Martinez allowed three runs and six hits in six-plus innings, striking out eight in a 3-1 loss in Game 2 on Thursday night.

For 5 2-3 innings, vintage Pedro was on display—minus the overpowering fastball of his heyday. He didn't need it. Martinez baffled the Yankees with offspeed pitches and sneaky fastballs. And, he did it despite not feeling well.

"I didn't feel strong because I've been under the weather the last couple days," Martinez said. "It's not an excuse. I felt good enough to make pitches. I felt kind of winded out there, but I was still able to do what I had to do."

With two outs in the sixth, Martinez got burned on a 1-2 pitch. He threw a slow curve out of the strike zone that Hideki Matsui reached down and drove a few rows deep into the right-field seats to give the Yankees a 2-1 lead. The 320-foot homer—an out in most ballparks—was a deflating blow for Martinez.

The three-time Cy Young Award winner stayed in for the seventh after convincing manager Charlie Manuel he felt fine, despite nearing 100 pitches. Martinez gave up consecutive singles to Jerry Hairston Jr. and Melky Cabrera before calling it a night.

"He said he felt good. He said that he wanted to go back out and pitch," Manuel said. "The bottom of the lineup was up and everything, and I thought he hadn't lost anything."

Manuel's decision to start Martinez over Cole Hamels, last year's World Series and NLCS MVP, in Game 2 was intensely scrutinized. But Hamels has struggled this postseason and Martinez threw seven scoreless innings in his only start at Los Angeles in the NLCS.

For Manuel, it was a no-brainer. Hamels pitches better at home, and Martinez has plenty of experience pitching against the Yankees from his Boston Red Sox days.

The familiar chants of "Who's Your Daddy?" began once Martinez started stretching in the outfield 30 minutes before game time. The reference was to a Martinez quote from 2004. Frustrated after another loss to New York, the pitcher said: "I just tip my hat and call the Yankees my daddy."

Making his first start at New York's new billion-dollar ballpark, Martinez nearly silenced the fans as he kept the Yankees' sluggers off-balance.

"It's a new Yankee Stadium, but the fans remain the fans," Martinez said. "I remember one guy sitting right in the front row with his daughter in one arm and a cup of beer in the other hand and saying all kinds of nasty stuff. I just told him, 'Your daughter is right beside you. It's a little girl. It's a shame you're saying all these things.' I'm a father myself. How can you be so dumb to do those kind of things in front of your child? What kind of example are you setting?"

Martinez struck out Derek Jeter and Johnny Damon to start the game and fanned Alex Rodriguez twice. Using his guile, the 38-year-old right-hander froze Jeter on a quick-pitch fastball in the third.

"Pedro's probably the smartest pitcher I've faced since I've been up," Jeter said. "He doesn't have to throw 98-99 mph to be successful."

Martinez made one mistake in the fourth, and Mark Teixeira didn't miss it. Teixeira ripped a solo homer a long way out to right-center to tie the game at 1.

"Pedro did a tremendous job," Manuel said. "He changed speeds, and he definitely moved the ball around, and he was aggressive. He wasn't afraid to throw inside to some of their big hitters, and he pitched a good game. Pedro got hurt by the long ball off left-handed hitters. It was a very close game, and we couldn't pull it out."

Martinez spent the first half of the year home in the Dominican Republic. He signed a one-year deal with the Phillies during the All-Star break for a prorated share of $2 million plus incentives, and went 5-1 with a 3.63 ERA in nine starts down the stretch.

Martinez fell to 12-14 in 39 career games against the Yankees, counting the postseason. He hadn't faced New York in the playoffs since he pitched a shaky inning in Boston's 10-3 victory in Game 7 of the 2004 ALCS.

"The fans, I enjoy that," Martinez said. "I know they really want to root for me. It's just that I don't play for the Yankees, that's all. I've always been a good competitor, and they love that. They love the fact that I compete. I'm a New Yorker, as well. If I was on the Yankees, I'd probably be like a king over here."

Anthony scores 41 points to help Denver win

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Carmelo Anthony scored 19 of his 41 points in the fourth quarter and the Denver Nuggets were helped by Portland's trouble at the free-throw line for a 97-94 victory Thursday night.

Greg Oden missed a pair of free throws with 4.6 seconds left, squandering a chance for Portland to go ahead.

Anthony hit a jumper with 4:26 left to tie it at 85, then added another to give the Nuggets their first lead since the second quarter.

It stayed close with the teams trading free throws. But Portland started to have trouble at the line and Nene hooked a shot and Denver led 95-91.

Brandon Roy's bank shot narrowed it again, but LaMarcus Aldridge continued the Blazers' free-throw woes by making just one of two.

After Oden's misses, Anthony made a pair and Roy missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer for the final margin.

Roy finished with 33 points for the Blazers.

The game was slowed considerably by fouls. Combined, the teams attempted 90 free throws.

Both teams had 54 wins last season, but the Nuggets edged the Blazers out of the Northwest Division title.

Denver went to the Western Conference finals, where the team fell 4-2 to the eventual NBA champion Lakers, while Portland fell in six games to the Houston Rockets in the first round of the playoffs.

The Nuggets were playing the second of a back-to-back. Denver opened at home Wednesday night with a 114-105 victory over the Jazz.

The Blazers won their opener 96-87 over the Houston Rockets on Tuesday night.

Denver jumped out to an early lead, holding a 24-17 advantage after the first quarter. The Blazers battled back and led 43-42 at the half.

Anthony amassed 20 points in the half. His layup midway through the third quarter narrowed the Nuggets to within 53-52. Roy's jumper kept Denver at bay.

Billups hit a 3-pointer to make it 61-59, before Chris Andersen made a pair of free throws for Denver to tie it at 61 with 1:23 left in the third.

AP

Denver Nuggets forward Carmelo Anthony, left, shoots over Portland Trail Blazers guard Brandon Roy during the first quarter of their NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore., Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009.

The Nuggets kept it close until Roy hit a running 28-footer at the buzzer to put the Blazers ahead 67-62.

Portland couldn't stretch it further until Rudy Fernandez hit a 3-pointer over a charging Anthony to make it 81-74. But the Nuggets silenced the Rose Garden crowd with consecutive layups from Anthony and Lawson.

Bulls 92, Spurs 85

At Chicago, Derrick Rose scored 13 points and had seven assists to lead the balanced Chicago Bulls to an impressive season-opening victory over the San Antonio Spurs.

Rose, who missed most of the preseason with an injured ankle, waved and blew a kiss toward the crowd before the opening tip. He then showed some of the explosiveness that carried him to the Rookie of the Year award last season. He had no trouble penetrating and delivered some dizzying spin moves that drew roars from the crowd, showing no signs of the right ankle pain that had bothered him the past few weeks.

He had plenty of help, and Chicago pulled away in the second half despite Tim Duncan's 28 points and 16 rebounds for the Spurs.

Luol Deng had 17 points and nine rebounds, a good start after missing the final 22 games last season. Kirk Hinrich added 14 points, while Tyrus Thomas scored all of his 13 in the second half. Joakim Noah chipped in with 10 points and 10 rebounds and the Bulls held advantages on the glass (52-44) and in second-chance points (22-13).

Besides Duncan, the Spurs were simply flat after opening with an easy win over New Orleans the previous night.

Manu Ginobili scored 12 but was just 3 for 11. Tony Parker had eight points and three assists after leaving Wednesday's game following a hard fall in the third quarter, and Richard Jefferson was off target again after a rough debut. He shot 3 for 9 and scored nine after going 1 for 7 against the Hornets.

The Bulls led by one at halftime after Hinrich hit a 3-pointer with just under a second left and then broke it open in the third, outscoring the Spurs 27-18 to go up 74-64.

Thomas started a 14-4 run midway through the third with a jumper and delivered and later dunked over Richard Jefferson on an alley-oop from Brad Miller, howling and burying a free throw to complete the three-point play. Hinrich then capped the run with a 7-footer that made it 72-58 with 2:19 left in the quarter.

Bulls players came down through the crowd during pregame introductions, high fiving fans as they made their way to the court, and the good vibe didn't end there. Chicago has higher expectations after pushing Boston to seven games in a thrilling first-round playoff series last season, and it's off to a good start.

NBA BRIEFS

NBA to investigate new accusations by Tim Donaghy

NEW YORK (AP)—The NBA says it will review accusations by former referee Tim Donaghy that were posted online. The league also says Thursday it has been reassured that an investigation found Donaghy to be the only official involved in criminal conduct. The referees say they are disappointed but not surprised by their former colleague's actions. Donaghy admitted taking cash payoffs from gamblers for picks on games, including ones he officiated. He was sentenced to 15 months for conspiracy to engage in wire fraud and transmitting betting information through interstate commence. Donaghy accuses fellow referees of misconduct in excerpts that appeared on the Web site deadspin.com. The publisher, however, says it won't go forward with the book.

Shaq seeks to become deputy sheriff in Cleveland

CLEVELAND (AP)—Shaquille O'Neal is looking to continue a sideline career in law enforcement now that he's in Ohio playing for the Cavaliers. Spokesman John O'Brien of the Cuyahoga (ky-uh-HOH'-guh) County sheriff's office says the Cavs center has applied to become a special deputy. He would have the right to carry a gun and make arrests but not be a paid, formal employee. O'Neal previously served roles with law enforcement agencies in Arizona, Virginia and Florida. The sheriff has forwarded the application to the state agency that must consider the request to deputize O'Neal. State attorney general's spokeswoman Holly Hollingsworth says that if approved, O'Neal would need 36 hours of police training and would have to take the Ohio police exam.

Fisher switches to Young at QB for 0-6 Titans

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Tennessee Titans owner Bud Adams wants more of Vince Young. He's getting just that with his winless team switching from veteran Kerry Collins back to the 2006 Offensive Rookie of the Year.

Coach Jeff Fisher announced the expected move Thursday following practice for the 0-6 Titans, and Young got the news from his coach in the morning. Fisher insists it was an organizational decision resulting from the team's winless start and that he won't play musical chairs with the position.

"We're in a unique situation right now. We haven't won a game. We wouldn't be having this conversation if we were 3-3," Fisher said.

That means Young will start Sunday against Jacksonville (3-3), the team that helped send him to the bench in the 2008 opener by picking him off twice and spraining his knee. Collins started 20 of the 21 games since then.

Young has eight career interceptions against Jacksonville with only three touchdown passes. He also has more career interceptions (33) than TD passes (22). But he has won five of his last six starts and is 18-11 as a starter. Young thanked Fisher for giving him a chance to sit back, develop and learn from Collins.

"For him to give me a shot again to go out and give it a chance again is big for me because I've been waiting," Young said.

The move appeared inevitable since the Titans lost 59-0 at New England on Oct. 18. Adams told The Tennessean newspaper after that loss in New England that he wanted to see more of Young.

The No. 3 overall pick in the 2006 draft split the work evenly with Collins at practice Wednesday but took all snaps with the first-team offense Thursday.

Collins wasn't happy or surprised by the move, which came a day after the Titans started prepping for their next game.

"When you're 0-6, then heads are going to roll. More times than not, it's the quarterback," Collins said.

Young started the meaningless regular season finale at Indianapolis last December, so this will be his first start under pressure since that 2008 season opener.

It's a game best known for Young being booed by the home fans and refusing at first to go back on the field until prompted by Fisher. Young sprained his knee a few plays later, then sparked a police hunt the next day when he drove off from his home with a gun in his car. The quarterback blamed his mother for overreacting.

"If we win, it's going to be good," Young said. "If we lose, it's all going to be Vince Young's fault. I just want to go out and play and get my rhythm back and put smiles on my coaches' faces and my teammates' faces and definitely the fans."

Collins led Tennessee to a 13-3 record and signed a two-year deal in the offseason to return as the starter. He hasn't been helped by at least 18 drops by his receivers.

But the Titans are off to a start that is their worst ever under Fisher, and Young is the quarterback the franchise drafted No. 3 overall in 2006 with a $4.25 million bonus due in March. He also is slated to count $14.2 million against the salary cap if on the roster in 2010.

Linebacker Keith Bulluck said the start wasn't Collins' fault.

"We're going with V.Y., and I'm happy for him in the sense that he's someone who lost his spot and had to sit back, take a back seat, be humbled out a little bit but has learned a lot in that time. I'm kind of looking forward to see how he's grown as a player," Bulluck said.

Young replaced Collins in 2006 in the fourth game of an 0-5 start, and the Titans wound up winning eight of their final 11 that season to just miss a playoff berth.

The Jaguars sound as if they expected Young to play all along.

"The owner said who he wants to play," said Jaguars linebacker Clint Ingram, who played against Young in college when he was at Oklahoma.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	2	0	1.000	—
Toronto	1	0	1.000	1/2
New Jersey	0	1	.000	1 1/2
New York	0	1	.000	1 1/2
Philadelphia	0	1	.000	1 1/2

Southeast Division

Atlanta	1	0	1.000	—
Miami	1	0	1.000	—
Orlando	1	0	1.000	—
Washington	1	0	1.000	—
Charlotte	0	1	.000	1

Central Division

Chicago	1	0	1.000	—
Detroit	1	0	1.000	—
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	1/2
Indiana	0	1	.000	1
Cleveland	0	2	.000	1 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Houston	1	1	.500	—
San Antonio	1	1	.500	—
Dallas	0	1	.000	1/2
Memphis	0	1	.000	1/2
New Orleans	0	1	.000	1/2

Northwest Division

Denver	2	0	1.000	—
Minnesota	1	0	1.000	1/2
Oklahoma City	1	0	1.000	1/2
Portland	1	1	.500	1
Utah	0	1	.000	1 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	1	0	1.000	—
Phoenix	1	0	1.000	—
Golden State	0	1	.000	1
Sacramento	0	1	.000	1
L.A. Clippers	0	2	.000	1 1/2

Yesterday's Games
Chicago 92, San Antonio 85
Denver 97, Portland 94

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

NMIFA YOUTH STANDINGS

Boys U13

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
MP United-Blue	4	4	0	0	31	3	+28	12
Paire FC	4	3	0	1	18	3	+15	9
Matansa FC	4	3	0	1	11	6	5	9
Tan Holdings FC-1	4	2	0	2	7	6	1	6
MP United-White	5	1	1	3	9	19	-10	4
Independents FC	3	0	1	2	1	7	-6	1
Tan Holdings FC-2	4	0	0	4	0	35	-35	0

Girls U13

Matansa FC	4	4	0	0	13	0	13	12
Paire FC	3	2	0	1	3	1	2	6
MP United	4	1	0	3	1	7	-6	3
Independents FC	3	0	0	3	0	9	-9	0

Four Rocball games slated this Saturday

The 2009 World Organized Rocball Community League continues today with four matches scheduled at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Rocball creator Jim Feger said matches slated from 4pm to 8pm this weekend will pit Fanians vs. Soul Rebels, CPC vs. No Name, No Mercy vs. One Way, and Kagman Projects against either CPC or No Name.

Following preseason games, the 2009 Rocball season finally got underway last Oct. 24 with One Way getting the better of Ghasias Brothers in overtime.

In the first and second sets, One Way dominated the Ghasias Brothers handing them two solid defeats, 15-2 and 15-9.

Ghasias Brothers, however, came back in the third and fourth sets winning, 16-3 and 17-14.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Rocball player serves during last season's action at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

At the end of four sets of play, One Way had scored the most points but failed to juice out by losing the fourth set (in Rocball a team cannot win a game after losing the last set regardless of the score).

Ghasias Brothers won the fourth set with the least amount of game points scored and thus forced the game into overtime.

In overtime, the team with the most game points scored but lost the fourth set, is required to win one overtime set.

The team that won the fourth set with the least amount of game points scored, meanwhile, needs to win two overtime sets to win the game.

In Rocball, an overtime game is won by making 10 points or scoring a goal, whichever comes first. But One Way had it its way as it scored off the Ghasias Brothers' opening serve and ran the overtime set by skunking their opponents, 11-0.

In all, there were 14 aces, a xunk, 15 kees, and two two goals scored. Ghasias Brothers' Ben Pelisamen was the game's heavy hitter with an ace, six kees, and a goal for 17 points. One Way was the team that scored most of the heavy scores with eight two-point aces, xunk, and kees. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Roach wants a brawling, 'crazy' Cotto

There's a reason why Freddie Roach has been baiting Miguel Cotto into a word war with taunting one-liners—and it has nothing to do with disrespect.

"Cotto is a tough guy, a very strong guy," Roach said. "I respect him."

Rather, the renowned trainer wants the Puerto Rican champion mentally roughed up on fight night when Manny Pacquiao guns for his WBO welterweight belt on Nov. 14 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"We want him to go crazy," Roach said. "I want him to hate my guts. I'll get inside his head [whenever] I can."

And that's just phase one of Roach's plan, which he got going by predicting Pacquiao would knock Cotto in one round. It isn't plain needling, though. Told that Cotto is studying to become a counterpuncher for the fight dubbed "Firepower," Roach actually hopes to rock the 29-year-old champion early to lure him into a brawl.

Pacquiao

If he gets knocked down in the first round, he's gonna go crazy," Roach said. "We want to throw him off. He's gonna try to be a counterpuncher but if Manny hits him, he's gonna be back to his aggressive style and that's where we're gonna hit him."

Roach has studied Cotto's fights in the past and knows his penchant for slow starts and he expects Pacquiao to set the pace early.

"We will not give him any momentum," Roach said. "I think we're going to have a window of opportunity to catch him cold so we have to put some pressure on him right away but we are going to do it in a scientific way. Manny is not [the] reckless fighter that he once was. He's a lot stronger now."

And part of that strength comes from the work the Filipino ring icon puts into training.

Talking to ESPN's Dan Rafael, Top Rank chief Bob Arum, who is promoting the fight, praised the way Pacquiao works out in preparation for bouts.

"I know Cotto works hard, but in contrast to the other guy [Pacquiao], it looks like he's taking a vacation," Arum said. "Pacquiao goes for, like, four or five hours. It's amazing. They train differently. Pacquiao is so work-intensive. It's like nothing I've ever seen.

"When I was with Cotto, I saw him do 10 rounds one day and six rounds another day. He looked good. He'd do his two hours and be done. After two hours, Manny's just getting started. I'm glad Manny pays Freddie a lot of money, because he earns it."

Former lightweight champion and Pacquiao sparmate Jose Luis Castillo had the same thing to say in an interview with the LA Times' Lance Pugmire.

"You have to have [guts] to get in the ring with [Pacquiao], he's very dedicated and is all about constant preparation. It's going to be a great fight. The more intelligent man will win, and Manny is very smart." ***(PDI)***

SOFTBALL

From Page 28

champion in the 16 to 18 age group after downing the North All-Stars in the finals last year, 9-5.

Elias Saralu coached the 2008 champion and had Nikko Saralu, Juan Iguel, Ryan Lisua, Mike Iguel, Ben Taisacan, Lia and Rachel Rangamar, J.P. Lizama, Chris Ayuyu, Lem Ogumoro, Tony Rogolifoi, and Lamarc Iguel as players.

Other champion teams in last year's Thanksgiving tournament were the Patriots (13 to 15 age group) and Dandan Elementary School (9 to 12).

The Pats ruled 13 to 15 age group division after beating Kagman in the finals, 5-2, while the Dandan Tottots won the 9 to 12 age group title after shutting out Team Familia, 8-0.

Five teams battled for the 9 to 16 age group crown with the Twins finishing third. Kagman and the Little Falcons completed the cast.

The 13 to 15 age group drew four other teams in Hilitai, third placer Hopwood, Da Lancherus, and the Eagles. Besides Brabu and the North All-Stars, three others joined the competition in the 16 to 18 division, namely Kagman, Banzai, and Titans.

For more information on this year's Thanksgiving tournament, contact Mettao at 664-2503 or DYS at 664-2582. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

EASY

From Page 28

with a 21-9 win to secure the victory.

Manta Diver, which remained winless in five games, foiled a O-No sweep after taking the third set, 15-10.

Teams needed to win only two sets in the four-person league to nail a victory, but still matches are played in three sets for tiebreak purposes.

In the first game, Chenutt Crew also had the game in the bag after only two sets, cruising to a 21-13, 21-10 victory. A 15-5 triumph in the third set gave Chenutt Crew a sweep and also allowed the team to bounce back from a loss to O-No last week.

Chenutt Crew has Typhoon Saito as captain and other members include Kgen Hall, Won Cho, J.R. Gechig, Scotty Silva, and J.J. Lewis.

Duplicating Chenutt Crew's feat Thursday night was Fisingan, which swept Git It.

The Jazz Roscow-backed Fisingan had a rough start, pulling off a 21-17 win in the opening set. Still fresh from a hard-earned victory in the first set, Fisingan kept its momentum in the second set en route to an easier 21-5 triumph.

Fisingan was still at it in the third set, drilling a 15-10 victory to gain its second straight win after downing Manta Diver last week.

Action in the 12-team league will continue next week with three games set for Tuesday.

In the first game, Pwipwise will take on the streaking Angamwas at 5:30pm, while in the second game at 6:30pm, the undefeated Random Radicals will put their unbeaten record on the line against Special Delivery. Shogunai and Fisingan will close out the night with their 7:30pm duel in the third game.

This year's fall league is at the halfway mark of the round-robin regular season. Games in the regular season are expected to be completed at the end of November, while playoffs are likely to be played in the second week of December.

Only the Top 8 teams will make it to the single-elimination playoff round.

SWEEP

From Page 28

Scoring for Tan Holdings FC-1 over the weekend were Michael Park, Andrew Jo, and Alexander Limes.

Matansa 2, MP United-White 1
MP United-Blue 14, Tan Holdings-2 0

In other results on Saturday, Matansa FC played in the second game and edged MP-United White, 2-1.

The victory was third in four games for Matansa FC, keeping the team in a tie for second place with Paire. Each team has gained nine points, but Paire FC has the most goals so far with 18 against Matansa's 11.

In the third game, the league-leading MP United-Blue clobbered Tan Holdings FC-2, 14-0.

The win improved MP United-Blue's record to 4-0-0 and gave the team 12 points. MP United-Blue, which drew a bye last Sunday, has scored 31 goals in four games, the most by any team this season.

Tan Holdings FC-2 remained winless in four games and has yet to make a single goal in the league.

Matansa 9, Tan Holdings-2 0
Paire 7, MP United-White 0

The two other make-up games last Sunday had Matansa FC and Paire FC blanking separate foes.

Matansa FC set the tone of the day via a 9-0 spanking of Tan Holdings FC-2 in the first game, while Paire FC recovered from a loss last Saturday via a 7-0 rout of MP-United White in the second game.

Tan Holdings FC-1 played Independents FC in the third game and also had a shutout victory.

With MP United-White losing back-to-back games, it dropped from third to fifth place in the team standings, as it has earned only four points in four games. Independents FC is in the sixth spot with only one point gained in four matches.

In the NMIFA youth league, each team is awarded two points for a win, one for a draw, and none for a loss.

Girls: Matansa 4, MP United 0

In the lone game in the girls' U13 division last Saturday, Matansa downed MP United, 4-0, to notch its fourth win in as many matches and keep the lead in the four-team field.

Matansa FC has gained 12 points and has scored 13 goals in four games.

Other teams entered in the girls' U13 are Paire FC and Independents.

MP UNITED

From Page 28

Andrew Jo and Alexander Limes.

In the girls division, Matansa's Doreen Ravell and Tricia Ingram have three each so far, while Corina Mae Suda and Andrea Camacho have one each.

Organizers only keep scores and names of those who made goals in the U13 division, as they want to promote a friendly competition in the three other age groups, namely the co-ed U6, U8, and U10 categories.

This year's fall league has 38 teams playing in a round-robin regular season. The event will culminate with a football festival on Nov. 14 at the Hopwood field from 8am to 3pm.

Teixeira, Matsui, Burnett help Yanks tie Series

More than any slugger on either team, pitching has been the star of this World Series.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Anthony scores 41 points to help Denver win

Carmelo Anthony scored 19 of his 41 points in the fourth quarter and the Denver Nuggets were helped by Portland's trouble at the free-throw line for a 97-94 victory Thursday night. 25

Sweep for Tan Holdings FC-1

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tan Holdings FC-2, left, and MP United-Blue players in action during their game in the boys' U13 division of the NMIFA league on Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2009 NMIFA Youth Football Fall League had back-to-back playing days at the Hopwood Junior High School Field with Tan Holdings FC-1 sweeping its games over the weekend.

Last Saturday, the then winless Tan Holdings FC-1 was paired against Paire FC and pulled off a 3-1 upset in the first game in the boys' U13 division to break into the win column.

The next day, Tan Holdings FC-1 was pitted against Independent FC and the former nailed a 3-0 shutout win to move from sixth to fourth place in the team standings. Tan Holdings FC-1 now has a 2-0-2 win-draw-loss record, has scored seven goals, and has earned six points.

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MP United-Blue strikers on target

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Three MP United-Blue players are leading the 2009 NMIFA Youth Football Fall League in the most goals scored category in the boys' U13 division.

Andrew Johnson, Jehn Joyner, and Jake Lee, who are playing for the league-leading MP United-Blue recorded five goals each in four games.

Five players are tied for second place with four goals apiece. They are MP United-White's Aaron Lee, MP United-Blue's Chris Park, Matansa FC's Sean Perez, and Paire FC's Hunter Jewell and Ju Young Kim.

Matansa FC's Genesis Manglona is alone at the No. 3 spot, as he is the lone player who has scored three goals so far in the seven-team league.

Eleven players have tallied two goals each. The list include MP United-Blue's Kennedy Izuka, Angelo Jones, Nuri Gutzwiller-Malakut, MP United-White's Dakota Hall, and Jordan Butcher-Wade, Paire FC's Joo Chan Park David, Won Jun Kim, Josel Fruit, and Billy Hinsin, Matansa's Julian Pelligrino, and Tan Holding's Michael Park.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United-Blue's Jake Lee, right, is tied with two other teammates in the most goals scored so far in the boys' U13 division of the NMIFA league.

Drilling one goal each were MP United-Blue's Enrico Del Rosario, MP United White's William Fong, Matansa's Josiah Orlando and William Camacho, Paire's Kenyon Schultz and Kautong Omengkar, and Tan Holdings FC's

See MP UNITED on Page 27

Softball teams told to prepare for Thanksgiving tournament

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Brabu outfielder throws to second base during their championship game against North All-Stars in the 2nd Annual Thanksgiving Youth Slowpitch Softball Tournament at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Youth teams interested in the 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Youth Slow-pitch Softball Tournament must start preparing now as the Division of Youth Services-organized event will start next month at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan and Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios ballfields.

Joe Mettao, one of the coordinators of the annual youth tournament, said games in the annual event will take place during the weeklong Thanksgiving break or from Nov. 21 to 29. However, schedule is subject to changes.

Mettao added representatives of teams are asked to attend a meeting on Nov. 19 at 5:30pm at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The tournament will have competitions in three divisions, namely the 9 to 12 age group, 13 to 15, and 16 to 18. Games will be played from 3:30pm to 6:30pm. Entrance fee is only $30 per team.

Brabu is this year's defending

See SOFTBALL on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Typhoon Saito plays for Chenutt Crew, which defeated Make It Bali in the NMIVA four-person league on the PIC sand court on Thursday night.

Easy wins for 3 teams in NMIVA league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

O-No started another winning run, following a 2-1 victory over Manta Diver in the 2009 PIC/Miller/Gatorade/Monster-NMIFA 4-Person Co-Ed Beach Volleyball Fall League on Thursday night on the PIC sand court.

O-No had the win, its second in a row after losing back-to-back games due to a depleted crew, after the second set. The Dan Westphal-captained O-No won the opening set by eight points, 21-13, and played even better in the second set

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